MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

20 JANUARY 1983

Lebanon

Lebanese-Israeli-U.S. Negotiations -- The Israeli and Lebanese delegations to the 20 January talks in Qiryat Shemona agreed to establish subcommittees on the framework of mutual relations, on security arrangements, and on the withdrawal of foreign forces from Lebanon, IDF Radio reported shortly after the start of the eighth round of talks. Earlier, during discussions with U.S. presidential envoy Philip Habib, Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir reiterated Israel's opposition to the presence of foreign troops in the proposed security zone in southern Lebanon and also reaffirmed that Israeli-operated warning stations will be established in the security zone for a limited and agreed period, Jerusalem radio reported. Israel did not present its demand for warning stations manned by the IDF as a condition in the security arrangements "just in order to give it up," Shamir stated in an interview with the radio. The temporary Israeli presence in such stations might last either until Israel and Lebanon sign a peace treaty or for "a few years," the foreign minister added.

Earlier, "authoritative political sources" cited by the radio firmly denied a HA'ARETZ report that Israel would accede to the U.S. proposal that the warning stations be manned by Americans instead of Israelis.

Soviet Delegation -- A Soviet delegation arrived in Beirut on a 1-week visit to Lebanon during which it will meet with senior officials, Beirut radio reported.

Monastery Incident -- Gunmen attacked Dayr Mar Sharbil Monastery at Al-Jiyah, south of Beirut, Voice of Lebanon radio reported. The clandestine Voice of Arab Lebanon radio claimed that gunmen of Major Sa'd Haddad's militia attacked the monastery during a Phalangist meeting. The radio attributed the incident to rivalry between Haddad and the Phalangists for control of the south.

Syria

In two messages to the president of the UN Security Council and the UN secretary general, Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam drew attention "in advance" to the seriousness of the aggressive statements made recently and repeated by Israeli authorities, Damascus radio reported. Khaddam stressed that Israel has always used such statements and pretexts prior to any aggression against neighboring countries and these statements indicate that Israel intends to carry out "aggressive acts" against Syria, the radio added. Meanwhile, a TISHRIN commentary broadcast by Damascus radio stated that Syria's SAM-5's are purely defensive, whereas Israel possesses offensive weapons which threaten not only Syria but the entire Arab world. Any country has the right to possess defensive weapons if subject to an external threat and all evidence confirms that Syria is threatened by Israel, TISHRIN asserted. Noting U.S. "concern" over Syria's measures to strengthen its antiaircraft defenses, TASS claimed that the U.S. Administration is denying Syria's right to "self-defense."

Inter-Arab Affairs

Syrian Position on Arab Committee -- Syria has informed a number of Arab countries that it is rescinding its agreement to the Fes summit resolutions on the Arab peace plan and that it will not participate in the work of the seven-member committee at summit level, KUNA reported citing the Ash-Shariqah paper AL-KHALIJ. The report, which was derived from a senior Arab diplomat, also said the Syrians have refused to participate in the work of the seven-member committee at ministerial level if the committee continues to be headed by Moroccan King Hassan II or Jordanian King Husayn. Noting that the new

Syrian position was recently conveyed to a number of Arab leaders by Foreign Minister Khaddam, the diplomat said the decision means Syria's effective withdrawal from the seven-member committee.

However, a Syrian official cited by Radio Monte Carlo denied the AL-KHALIJ report, stressing that Syria is still committed to the Fes resolutions and to its participation in the seven-member committee.

Committee's London Visit -- A senior Moroccan envoy held talks with British Foreign Office officials in London on the Arab seven-member committee's proposed visit to Britain, London PRESS ASSOCIATION reported. Meanwhile, the Syrian ambassador to Morocco announced that the visit will take place 7-8 February, according to KUNA.

Saudi Call for U.S. Clarification on PLO -- Responding to the State Department announcement that Palestinian representation in future peace talks will be in accordance with the Camp David accords, a 16 January AL-JAZIRAH editorial called on the United States to announce what topics it is willing to discuss with the PLO if the latter recognizes Israel and to stipulate in what capacity it is willing to accept the PLO and initiate a dialogue with it.

PLO Affairs -- PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat departed Damascus without meeting any Syrian officials and Palestinian-Syrian relations have again reached a crisis point, according to the London paper ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT. Diplomatic sources reportedly said Syria is expected to take "retaliatory steps" against Fatah in Syria and Lebanon, the paper noted. While in Damascus, 'Arafat chaired a meeting of military officials and spoke about the status of the Palestinian forces, Baghdad Voice of PLO radio reported. The PLO leader also met with the USSR charge d'affaires in Damascus and discussed Palestinian-Soviet relations, the radio also reported.

An 18 January Baghdad Voice of PLO commentary criticized "teachers" who failed to fulfill promises to supply heavy weapons to the PLO during the beirut battle and who called on the PLO to commit suicide. The commentary stressed that the PLO does not need teachers, but needs "to sense some shame" from those who failed to help them and who are now preparing to drag the PLO into "imaginary battles or empty stands." Meanwhile, an 18 January Amman radio commentary on the Palestinian factions' statement issued in Tripoli, Libya, said Jordan has frequently stressed its "categorical rejection" of any authorization by any side to represent the Palestinian people. Those who met in Tripoli were either ignorant or "deliberately and premeditatively" ignoring Jordan's position.

Afghanistan

"Soviet sources" in Islamabad confirmed that 15 Russians were kidnapped early this month by Afghan resistance fighters at Mazar-e Sharif, AFP reported. In another development Afghan resistance forces killed approximately 50 Soviet soldiers and damaged 13 helicopters during a 15 January raid on Jalalabad airport, according to AFP. Citing the Afghan Islamic press agency, the report added that 100 rebels shelled the airport for 6 hours using mortars and rocket launchers.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: PLO-SYRIAN 'CRISIS' INTENSIFIES

PM191707 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 19 Jan 83 pp 1, 2

[Unattributed report: "Crisis Between PLO and Syria Intensifies"]

[Text] With PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat's departure from Damascus without holding any meetings with any Syrian officials, Palestinian-Syrian relations have again reached crisis point. It had been reported earlier that a delegation headed by PLO Political Department Chief Faruq Qaddumi would hold talks next week in Damascus with a Syrian delegation headed by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam with the aim, according to a responsible Palestinian official, of eliminating the present differences, especially in view of the Syrian press campaign against the PLO leadership. However, Damascus sources noted the heavy atmosphere which prevailed during 'Arafat's meetings in Damascus.

Diplomatic sources are reported to have said that the differences between the Syrian government and the Palestinian leadership headed by Yasir 'Arafat have intensified and that Syria is expected to take retaliatory steps against Fatah in Syria and Lebanon.

A top aide of Yasir 'Arafat was quoted as telling a visitor to Damascus yesterday that the Palestinian leader would try during the forthcoming meeting in Algeria to persuade the Palestinian commands to give him more power.

It seems that the possibility of a meeting between 'Arafat and Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad has evaporated and that the dialogue started by a PLO committee with Syria has now stopped completely.

KUNA: AL-FAHUM SEEKS UNIFIED STAND FOR PNC MEETING

LD191918 Kuwait KUNA in English 1700 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] Damascus, Jan 19 (KUNA) -- A Palestinian committee headed by Speaker of the Palestine National Council, parliament in exile, Khalid al-Fahum, started a series of meetings here Wednesday to prepare a unified Palestinian work paper to be tabled at the 16th PNC session scheduled for mid-February in Algeria.

A leading Palestinian source told KUNA that the committee, formed during recent meetings of the Palestinian leadership in the Syrian capital, will draw a unified strategy regarding a number of issues and political moves on the Palestinian, Arab and international arenas.

The conferees will in particular review Mideast peace proposals including the Fes charter, President Reagan's initiative and the Brezhnev plan, the source said and elaborated that members will also agree on program for future PLO moves. They will determine the basis governing the organization's relationship with Arab countries at the present and future stages in addition to formulating a joint speculation [as received] on Palestinian national unity and unifying the Palestinian revolutionary forces, the source said.

He added that the committee will report to an expanded conference to be convened in Aden by the end of January under chairmanship of PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat and attended by members of the PLO Executive Committee, speaker of PNC and secretaries of Palestinian organizations.

The conferees will ratify the recommendations prior to a discussion at the PNC, the source said and noted that the resolutions will be binding to all parties.

The Palestinian committee currently in session groups Faruq Qaddumi representing Al-Fatah movement, 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar representing independent parties, Talal Naji from the Popular Front -- the General Command, Ahmad al-Yamani from the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh from the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, Muhammad Khalifah from the Sa'iqah movement, Muhammad Ghunaym from Fatah Central Committee, Tal'at Ya'qub, secretary general of the Palestine Liberation Front, and Dr. Samir Ghawshah, secretary general of the Popular Struggle Front, the source concluded.

'ARAFAT CHAIRS MILITARY MEETING IN DAMASCUS 18 JAN

JN191720 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabac 1615 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] Tunis -- Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, arrived in Tunis from Damascus last night following a tour of several Arab and friendly foreign states. Before leaving Damascus, Abu 'Ammar chaired a meeting of the commanders of the military units and other military officials. Our correspondent has learned that discussion dealt with the current military situation in light of recent developments as well as the Israeli military moves and massing of forces.

Abu 'Ammar discussed the status of the Palestinian forces with the military commanders. At the beginning of the meeting, Abu 'Ammar presented a quick review of the political situation in light of the recent developments and events in the region.

'ARAFAT MEETS USSR CHARGE D'AFFAIRES TO SYRIA

JN191717 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has received the comrade USSR charge d'affaires in Damascus at his office. They discussed recent developments in the region as well as Soviet-Palestinian relations.

KUNA: SYRIAN ENVOY CONFIRMS ARAB COMMITTEE'S UK VISIT

LD191726 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1532 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] Rabat, 19/1/83 (KUNA) -- Ahmad 'Isa, the Syrian ambassdor in Rabat, announced that the seven-member committee's visit to London would take place on 7 and 8 February. In a statement to KUNA, 'Isa said that the ambassadors of the Arab states participating in the committee have conveyed this to their governments after learning of the date of the visit from the Moroccan Foreign Ministry.

In reply to a question on the British denial, the ambassador added that he had consulted the Moroccan Foreign Ministry regarding the matter, but the ministry had stressed that all of the arrangements for the visit had been completed and that the visit would take place as scheduled.

Commenting on 'Isa's remarks, a responsible source at the British Embassy said that consultations had been completed and that the date of the visit would be officially announced very soon. He did not deny the statement made by Ahmad 'Isa, the Syrian ambassador in Rabat.

JERUSALEM COMMITTEE TO LAUNCH NEW INITIATIVE

LD192038 Kuwait KUNA in English 1759 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] Rabat, Jan 19 (KUNA) -- Director of the PLO office here Wajih Hassan Qassem [name as received] said Wednesday that the Jerusalem Committee will discuss in its forthcoming meeting the 12th Arab summit's Mideast peace plan to launch a joint Arab-Islamic initiative over the (?issue).

Qassem, who is also known as "Abu Marwan", said in an interview with KUNA that the Committee, which did not meet for almost a year, will hold a joint meeting January 21-22 in Marrakech with the Arab committee of seven. The conferees will determine the possible Arab-Islamic endeavor in persuading permanent members at the Security Council to support the Fes charter, he added.

The PLO representative said that in the event the Jerusalem Committee adopted the eight-point plan a call will be made on the Islamic world to exert diplomatic and economic efforts to rally international support.

The PLO will table the Palestinian stance towards latest developments and will demand a unified Arab-Islamic stand in face of countries which deny the Palestinian people's national rights, namely the U.S. and Britain, Abu Marwan asserted.

Qassem hailed in this respect Saudi Arabia and other Gulf countries' attitude in refusing to receive the British foreign secretary in retaliation for his government's rejection to receive a PLO representative with the seven-man committee.

The Jerusalem Committee, formed in 1975 at the Islamic foreign ministers meeting in Jidda, will meet for the seventh time. All meetings of the committee, presided over by Moroccan monarch Hassan II, were held in Morocco in the presence of the chosen members, namely representatives of Morocco, Palestine, Senegal, Indonesia, Bangladesh, Iran, Iraq, Nigeria, Guinea, Pakistan, Syria, Saudi Arabia and Jordan.

Abu Marwan said that King Hassan has extended an invitation to PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat to attend the meeting and added that he will most probably respond.

The idea of such a joint meeting was the brainchild of the Moroccan monarch and aims at briefing the Islamic world on Arab efforts to reach a peaceful solution to the Palestine cause. The Arab nation also (?pins hopes on) the Islamic countries' role in backing their peace plan.

ADEN VOP: SALAH KHALAF MEETS WITH GDR OFFICIAL AXEN

GF200606 Aden Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1815 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] Brother Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf], member of the Fatah Central Committee, met in Berlin today with Hermann Axen, member of the Politburo and secretary of the Central Committee of the German Socialist Unity Party, SED.

During the meeting the official reaffirmed the GDR's support for the just struggle of the Palestinian people under the leadership of the PLO, their sole legitimate representative. He said the SED supports the Palestinian people's struggle for ensuring their inalienable rights to self-determination and establishment of their independent state on their homeland.

Brother Abu Iyad expressed the high appreciation of the PLO and the Palestinian revolution for the support of the socialist countries for the just struggle of the Palestinian people under the PLO leadership. He praised the socialist countries' peace initiative.

CHEDLI KLIBI DISCUSSES EUROPEAN STAND ON MIDEAST

NC191418 Paris AFP in English 1354 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] Tunis, Jan 19 (AFP) -- Chedli Klibi, secretary-general of the Arab League, today expressed concern that some European governments were modifying their position concerning the Middle East situation.

Mr Klibi said in an interview after a week-end visit to Bonn that he had detected a "possible change" in the West German attitude which might influence other European leaders. "European leaders have recently systematically insisted on the necessity of guaranteeing Israel's security, while the security of Arab states is gravely threatened by Israel," he said.

He said that during his "frank" talks in Bonn with West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl and Foreign Minister Hans Dietrich Genscher, he "discussed at length" the different areas of concern. Mr Klibi said he hoped the West German Government would "adopt a more positive attitude" towards the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

Sources close to the Arab League said it was expected that Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir would shortly visit West Germany.

But Mr Klibi noted that during a short trip to Dublin, the Irish Government had a "sympathetic welcome for the Arab causes".

UAE PAPER: STEADFASTNESS FRONT SUMMIT TO BE HELD

GF181754 Dubayy AL-BAYAN in Arabic 16 Jan 83 p 1

[Exclusive report from Kuwait]

[Text] Reliable Arab diplomatic sources expect the summit meeting of the Tripoli charter countries and of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front countries to be held within a few days.

The sources told AL-BAYAN that the initial agreement among the front's countries to hold this meeting will be determined by the outcome of the intensive contacts being held between the capitals of these countries.

The sources added that the meeting will discuss the latest developments of the situation in the Middle East and the role the front can play.

KUWAIT

OIL MINISTER LEAVES FOR GENEVA OPEC TALKS

LD200832 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0800 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] Kuwait, 20 Jan (KUNA) -- Minister of Oil Affairs Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifah al-Adhbi today left Kuwait for Geneva to participate in the important consultative meeting of OPEC ministers.

The 13 oil ministers of the OPEC member-states will discuss a number of issues concerning each country's share of the production, on condition that total production not exceed 18.5 million barrels per day and at the same time the basic price per barrel of oil, $34, be maintained.

OMAN

FOREIGN AFFAIRS MINISTER LEAVES FOR AUSTRIA

GF171034 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0815 GMT 17 Jan 83

[Text] Muscat, 17 Jan (WAKH) -- Omani Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Yusuf al-'Alawi 'Abdallah today left Muscat for Vienna on a 4-day visit to Austria at the invitation of his Austrian counterpart, Dr Willibald Pahr. During the visit the Omani minister will hold talks with a number of Austrian officials dealing with improving relations between the two countries in various fields while exchanging views on a number of issues of mutual interest.

In a predeparture statement he expressed hope that his visit to Austria will be a factor that helps promote relations between the two countries. He also hoped that this visit will be a good opportunity to get to know the views of the Austrian Government, particularly those of the Austrian prime minister, on issues that concern the Middle East because Austria is one of the European countries supporting the Arab stance. The Omani minister of state for foreign affairs added that the European views on Arab issues have not shifted from the Venice Declaration reached in 1980, which reflected everybody's desire to reach a political solution to this issue.

BRIEFS

LABOR MINISTER APPOINTED -- Sultan Qabus of Oman has issued a decree appointing Mustahil ibn Ahmad al-Mi'shani as minister of social affairs and labor. [Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 15 Jan 83 GF]

OIL PRODUCTION -- The Sultanate of Oman's oil production during the period from July to December 1982 reached 62.9 million barrels. The current daily production of crude is estimated to be 353,000 barrels. [Muscat 'UMAN AL-USBU'I in Arabic 13 Jan 83 GF]

SAUDI ARABIA

'UKAZ SEES NEED FOR SOVIET MIDEAST ROLE

PM191037 Jidda 'UKAZ in Arabic 15 Jan 83 p 3

[International affairs editor's article: "Dimensions of Arab Move Toward Moscow"]

[Text] The strategy of an Arab move on the international level has achieved great success, proving that the Arabs are capable of reaching centers of international decisionmaking and influencing them in their favor.

The Arab countries, through the Arab seven-member committee, have been able to achieve positive results, thanks to the committee's visits to Washington, Moscow, Paris, and Beijing.

The Arab move derives its real value from two fundamental factors: The first is the Arab peace plan, which has been the basis of the move toward the major powers belonging to the Security Council, and the second is an Arab agreement within the framework of Arab solidarity to achieve a comprehensive settlement of the Palestinian problem and the Arab-Israeli conflict in accordance with the principles laid down by the Arab plan while not disregarding other initiatives that in essence and in terms of ultimate objective are no contradictory to the Arab plan.

In addition to the seven-member committee's efforts, Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat has toured a number of European capitals, including Moscow, in order to explain the results achieved so far, particularly with regard to the question of a Jordanian-Palestinian confederation and Jordanian-Palestinian views regarding the proposed delegation to the talks.

In fact the Soviets have never ceased supporting Palestinian rights and the establishment of a Palestinian state in the West Bank and Gaza, but the Soviet support so far has remained verbal and rhetorical without reaching the stage of playing an effective role in the comprehensive settlement, for which preparations are underway.

The United States may not want a Soviet presence in any future settlement, but the Soviet Union cannot be excluded because it is the second superpower responsible for world security and stability.

In consequence, Arab interests dictate that all international parties should be represented in the final talks for a comprehensive settlement so that these parties will be the guarantors of the agreement reached.

In the joint statement issued on Yasir 'Arafat's talks with the Soviet leaders, the Soviet Union proposed the convening of an international conference involving all parties concerned with the Middle East conflict, including the PLO.

The Soviet proposal agrees with Articles 7 and 8 of the Arab peace plan, which provide that "the Security Council should lay down peace guarantees between all the countries of the area, including the independent Palestinian state" and that "the Security Council should guarantee the implementation of those principles," that is, the principles contained in the Arab plan.

Although the Arab plan refers to Security Council guarantees and does not refer specifically to an international conference, the Security Council basically consists of the five major powers, namely, the United States, the Soviet Union, France, Britain, and China -- in other words, the very countries that would participate in any international conference to guarantee a comprehensive settlement.

However, there is yet another aspect to the expected Soviet role, which is that the Soviet Union's ties of friendship with certain Arab countries will enable it to convince them to accept the principles of a comprehensive settlement and to sit at the negotiating table in order to reach agreement on principles that would restore Palestinian and Arab rights. Moreover, a Soviet role, despite its limitations in wielding influence, would lend an equilibrium to the balance of power in the area that would in future prevent its polarization or inclusion in the sphere of influence of this or that superpower.

Moreover, a move toward the Soviet Union would lend credibility to the Arab stand declared at the Fes summit and on many occasions -- that the Arabs want a balanced international situation that would achieve the higher Arab interests within the framework of cooperation based on equality and respect for the internal and regional sovereignty of the countries of the area.

On the basis of all these factors, the seven-member committee, at its meeting on 21 January, will include in its final appraisal of the outcome of its contacts the possibility of Soviet participation in a comprehensive settlement.

The prevalent belief is that after agreement is reached on putting the Arab house in order and on the principles on which the international move will be based, the Arab countries will propose the idea of an international conference to complete the final agreement, provided that the parties agree that the PLO be represented on an equal footing with the rest of the parties concerned with the conflict.

This proposal is accepted by France, China, and the Soviet Union. The United States is expected to accept this formula as a way out of the predicament of the U.S. solution, which prevents some Arab parties from entering the settlement negotiations.

AL-JAZIRAH CRITICIZES U.S. SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENT

PM191029 Riyadh AL-JAZIRAH in Arabic 16 Jan 83 p 3

[Editorial: "Two Questions to the U.S. State Department Spokesman"]

[Excerpts] It appears that the Camp David agreement as a framework for alleged peace in the Middle East has not yet become a thing of the past as far as certain great powers are concerned, such as the United States, which is a party to these agreements, despite the fact that one of the three parties to the agreements has passed away, namely, the late Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat.

Israel is not alone in clinging to the Camp David framework for peace with the Arabs, for the United States under its Republican President Reagan still clings to some, if not all, the provisions of the Camp David framework. A U.S. State Department spokesman, for the first time since the announcement of Reagan's initiative last September, has revealed the link between this initiative and Camp David by announcing that "Palestinian representation in the future peace talks will be in accordance with what has decided in the Camp David agreements."

So that everybody understands what the State Department spokesman means with regard to this representation, we would recall that the Camp David agreements provide that "Palestinian representation in the peace talks be restricted only to the inhabitants of of the West Bank of the Jordan and the Gaza Strip, which are occupied by Israel."

This clearly means that the PLO, according to the U.S. concept, does not represent the Palestinians and therefore the U.S. Administration will not allow it to participate in any peace talks between the Arabs and Israel as representative of the Palestinians.

The State Department spokesman also reveals a serious U.S. interpretation of the term "recognition" of Israel, which the United States wants from the PLO. The U.S. spokesman said that PLO recognition of Israel is a basic U.S. Government condition only for direct dialogue with the PLO but that this condition does not include inviting the PLO leadership to join the peace talks that will take place within the framework of President Reagan's peace plan.

If we know that Israel has often announced that it will not exchange recognition with the PLO and that under no circumstances will it grant it recognition or enter into direct political talks or dialogue, we will realize the strength of the U.S. alignment with Israel and the extent to which the U.S. stand in the Middle East is being utilized in the service of Israeli objectives.

Believing in the danger that the PLO leadership poses to it, the danger that the continued existence of the PLO and its struggle for self-determination and the establishment of a Palestinian state represent, Israel sought to destroy and wipe out the PLO and physically liquidate its leaders through its invasion and occupation of Lebanon.

Unfortunately, the U.S. Administration knew of Israel's plan to invade Lebanon even before the invasion took place. This is evident from Minister of Tourism Avraham Sharir's admission to a closed meeting of French Jews in Paris that the PLO had allegedly offered to sign a nonaggression agreement between Israel and the Palestinian forces before the Israeli forces invaded Lebanon and that this Palestinian offer was conveyed to Israel through U.S. diplomatic channels. But Israel rejected it because it had actually decided to wipe out the PLO and liquidate its leadership.

Unless President Reagan's administration denies the Israeli tourism minister's disclosure that it was the middleman in conveying a Palestinian offer of nonaggression to Israel prior to the invasion of Lebanon, it means that the administration had prior knowledge that Israel's intention in invading Lebanon was not to protect Galilee in northern occupied Palestine, as Begin alleged, but to destroy the PLO and liquidate its leadership, which represents the Palestinian people's honorable struggle, and to replace it with an agent leadership that would agree to recognize Israel on behalf of the Palestinians and to accept sham autonomy within the framework of the Israel state.

The questions which the U.S. attitude toward the PLO, as announced by the State Department spokesman, prompts us to ask are:

1. What are the topics the U.S. Administration will discuss with the PLO if the latter accepts its condition of recognizing Israel?

2. In what capacity will the U.S. Administration accept the PLO and initiate an official dialogue with it?

We would not be asking too much of the U.S. State Department spokesman to please answer these two questions.

YAMANI MEETS WITH VISITING MEXICAN OFFICIALS

GF181614 Jidda Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 18 Jan 83

[Text] Ahmad Zaki Yamani, petroleum and mineral affairs minister, met today with (Jose Eduardo Benareto), Mexican Foreign Ministry under secretary and (Aletsbo Mendota), Mexican Energy Ministry under secretary [title as received], who are currently visiting the Kingdom.

During the meeting, issues concerning cooperation between the Kingdom and Mexico were discussed. The Mexican officials arrived in the Kingdom yesterday on a visit that will last for several days.

UAE

AL-KHALIJ ATTACKS U.S. PLAN FOR JORDAN RDF

GF151405 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0650 GMT 15 Jan 83

[From the Press Review]

[Text] Ash-Shariqah, 15 Jan (WAM) -- AL-KHALIJ today commented editorially on an item published in U.S. papers on a U.S. plan to provide equipment to enable two brigades of Jordanian special forces to carry out rapid deployment duties in the Gulf region. The paper emphasized that defense of the Gulf is the duty of its countries and that Arab cooperation in this field must be executed under a comprehensive, national, security, and Arab umbrella and not under the Pentagon or any other foreign umbrella.

Under the headline: "A Jordanian-Gulf Belt Is Required Vis-a-Vis the U.S. Insult," the paper continued, saying that former U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig used to call on his country to count on the "moderate Arab countries" in order to deter the Soviet Union from carrying out any adventure in the Middle East and thus defend the Gulf against the Soviet threats. This statement, in addition to other statements made by U.S. leaders implies that Arab moderation is conceived by them to mean working in the direction of serving U.S. strategic interests and that extremism implies drawing close to or serving the Soviet Union. Moreever, they do not bear in mind in any way a measurement for moderation or extremism as related to the interests of the peoples of the Arab nation, who are certainly not a part of the Eastern or Western polarization.

The paper continued that this report includes five [as received] basic aspects, foremost of which is that "this is belittlement of an Arab army and nation since it is the same as using mercenaries to serve foreign interests and this is what we reject and what Jordan rejects." This news report also represents an attempt by the United states to drive a wedge into inter-Arab relations because, as announced by the Arab Gulf leaders, the defense of the Gulf is the duty of its countries. The paper continued by saying that this news report belittles all Arab rights, which entail the presence of all the Arab forces along the lines of confrontation with Israel. The fourth aspect of this is that it is a continuation of the plan to demoralize the Arab citizen and make him believe that a new Arab country is ready to change its course from the main confrontation arena to other arenas in order to confront what the U.S. calls "the Soviet danger."

AL-KHALIJ stressed that this news item represents the climax of belittlement of international relations and disparagement for Arab relations. The paper called on the Arab countries to prove their awareness of an adherence to their sovereignty through settling that account with the United States "over this impudence, the likes of which has never been seen before in international relations. Moreover, there must be a stringent position toward the U.S. Government after Jordan denies this news item because this kind of insult campaign must come to an end."

CABINET DISCUSSES MUBARAK TRIP, DOMESTIC ISSUES

NC191748 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] During its meeting today under Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Adin, the Cabinet discussed subjects related to the trip which President Muhammad Husni Mubarak will make to the United States, Canada, Britain, and France.

Afterward, Minister of State for Information Safwat ash-Sharif stated: The Cabinet reviewed a report presented by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali explaining that the president's trip aims at giving momentum to the efforts for a settlement of the situation in Lebanon and at reviewing the stands of the parties concerned with the Middle East issue. He also pointed out that the president, during his visit to the United States, will discuss the means to promote bilateral economic cooperation.

The minister of state for information added: Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din discussed the subjects related to economic cooperation with the United States during several meetings he held with the ministers of planning, investment and international cooperation, economy, finance, agriculture, and industry. It was decided that the ministers of planning, economy, and investment will go to the United States before the president embarks on his trip in order to pave the way for the economic aspects of the discussions which the president will hold during his visit to Washington. Kamal Hasan 'Ali also reviewed the political and economic goals of the president's visit to Canada, Britain, and France. The Cabinet then discussed the domestic situation in light of a report presented by Interior Minister Hasan Abu Basha in which he explained the efforts that are being made to solve the problems of services and basic utilities and to secure the needs of the masses -- a matter that is regarded as one of the principal factors for stability on the domestic front. Regarding the supply situation, the minister of supply pointed out that the rate of consumption of primary commodities has increased and that efforts are being made to deal with this situation. Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din announced that it has been decided to form a technical committee to study the population problem in the city of Cairo and to draw up practical proposals and solutions to remedy it.

The minister of state for information added: The Cabinet then moved to discuss the economic situation. The minister of economy and foreign trade pointed out that in the period from July to December 1982, a surplus was achieved in the currency budget amounting to 247 million pounds when a deficit amounting to 426 million pounds was expected to occur. This surplus is the result of an increase in agricultural and oil exports and in the savings of Egyptians working abroad, which amounted to 846 million pounds during the aforementioned period -- an increase of about 71 million pounds over the same period of the past fiscal year. Oil exports amounted to 1,246 billion pounds when they were expected to be 1,134 billion pounds. Imports fell by 229 million pounds as a result of the rationalization of these imports and the reduction in world prices. The Cabinet then reviewed a report by the minister of planning about following up and assessing the implementation of the development projects during the period from 1 July to the end of December 1982.

The minister of state for information said that Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din announced that the ministers are responsible for following up the implementation of the [5 year] plan projects in the various sectors on site -- a matter which President Husni Mubarak emphasized during the Cabinet meeting he chaired last December.

ETHICS COURT HEARS CASE AGAINST 'ISMAT AS-SADAT

NC192058 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1730 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] Cairo, 19 Jan (MENA) -- The Court of Ethics today resumed the trial of 'Ismat as-Sadat and the members of his family. It listened to the testimonies of Muhammad Idris 'Abd al-Karim, a retired major from the Border Guard, and Muhammad ad-Dumardash Abu Sa'dah, owner of the Arab-Swiss Investment Company.

At the end of the 4-hour session, the court decided to adjourn the case until tomorrow, Thursday, and to allow attorneys from the subsidiary bar association [an-naqabah al-far'iyah lillmuhamin] to see the documents relevant to the case.

At the beginning of the session counselor Husni 'Abd al-Hamid, assistant to the socialist prosector and representative of the prosecution in the case, received a letter from the director of Turah prison indicating that 'Ismat as-Sadat and his two sons, Tal'at and Jalal, refrained from attending today's session of the court and that they signed a statement saying that they adopted this stand in protest against the court's refusal to let their defense attorneys resume their work at yesterday's session. Moreover, they said that the Socialist Prosecutor's office had refused to allow their attorneys to see the files and documents relevant to the case.

Assistant Socialist Prosecutor Husni 'Abd al-Hamid expressed full readiness to allow the defense attorneys and 'Ismat as-Sadat and the members of his family to see all the documents. He said that in the past the court was notified of the defense attorney's withdrawal from the case, and hence neither 'Ismat as-Sadat nor the former defense attorneys were able to see these documents.

The assistant socialist prosecutor explained that in accordance with the law on defending ethics from shame [qanun himayat al-qiyam min al-'ayb], if a defendant does not attend a court's session, then he will be tried in absentia and a defense attorney cannot plead on his behalf. This is because, according to the law, a defense attorney can plead on behalf of a defendant only if the latter is present before the court.

The court then heard the testimony of Muhammad Idris 'Abd al-Karim, who was a major in the Border Guard corps. He said that he and 'Ismat as-Sadat worked in the Border Guard corps between 1945 and 1946. He added 'Ismat as-Sadat worked as a volunteer military clerk. He then resigned and worked as a water tanker driver until he was accused and an investigation was conducted with him on charges of trying to bring narcotics into the country.

The witness added that 'Ismat as-Sadat then left his job as a driver and worked as a distributor of the newspaper AL-JUMHURIYAH in the town of Tanta. Afterward, his personal contacts with 'Ismat as-Sadat ended.

The court also heard the testimony of Muhammad ad-Dumardah Abu Sa'dah, owner of the Arab-Swiss Investment Company. He said that he agreed with 'Ismat as-Sadat and his two sons, Anwar and Tal'at, on certain commercial transactions, that they took from him one half million Egyptian pounds to include him as a partner in certain commercial transactions and that they have not refunded the money to him.

The witness added that he purchased tourist cars from abroad for the sum of 130,000 pounds, that 'Ismat as-Sadat and his two sons seized these cars against his wish, that they refunded to him only 10,000 pounds, that he passed these facts to the security authorities in Egypt and the senior state officials and that some investigations are still underway on these facts.

'ALI INTERVIEWED ON DOMESTIC, FOREIGN ISSUES

PM191721 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 17 Jan 83 p 3

[Interview with Egyptian Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali in Cairo -- date not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] What is the news about a Cabinet reshuffle?

[Answer] I have no knowledge whatsoever of any imminent Cabinet reshuffle in Cairo. Cabinet reshuffles -- if they take place -- are usually not announced in advance.

[Question] Will you be the prime minister?

[Answer] These are unfounded rumors.

[Question] If President Mubarak asked you to form a new Cabinet, would you agree?

[Answer] No comment.

[Question] Israel is refusing to withdraw from Lebanon, is threatening to annex the West Bank, and is provoking Syria. Egyptian-Israeli relations are at a standstill or are even deteriorating. What chances are there for peace in this tense atmosphere? Are the dangers of confrontation and continued deterioration unavoidable?

[Answer] There are more chances for peace now than ever before. The chances are there provided we use the time element well.

[Question] Dr Ghali has described the peace between Egypt and Israel as a cold peace. Yitzhaq Navon described it in Washington as a very cold peace. You have said that Israel has emptied the Egyptian-Israeli treaty of its substance. What is the truth about Egyptian-Israeli relations, if there still is such a thing?

[Answer] Egyptian-Israeli relations can be summed up as follows: Official Egypt is implementing all the peace provisions under the treaty. As regards implementation at the popular level, the frustration felt as a result of Israeli practices in Lebanon -- the invasion and the massacres -- greatly affected the Egyptian people. This is the cold and very cold aspect referred to by Dr Ghali and Navon respectively. This is why Israel must both be careful what steps it takes in the future and take into consideration the fact that there is a strong public opinion in Egypt too, not only in Israel.

[Question] Will Egypt hold joint military exercises with the United States, having refused to do so in 1982? Also, will Egypt give the United States military facilities and, if so, how could this be in harmony with Egypt's policy of nonalignment?

[Answer] As stated by Defense Minister Marshal Abu Ghazalah, joint military exercises are held from time to time with the United States to raise combat efficiency and exchange expertise. They have no political nature. As for facilities, they do not at all mean foreign military bases in Egypt.

They are facilities for a specific purpose and a specific period of time and are granted at the request of an Arab state. Then comes U.S.-Egyptian coordination on going to the aid of any Arab state that asks for help. The facilities fall within the framework of Arab-Egyptian relations and do not prejudice Egypt's nonalignment. The Soviet Union once had facilities in Egypt, but this did not prevent us from being a nonaligned state. Every nonaligned state has special relations with one of the two superpowers. Egypt has special relations with the United States.

[Question] Do you expect an exchange of ambassadors between Egypt and the Soviet Union before the New Delhi nonaligned conference?

[Answer] The exchange of ambassadors has nothing to do with the nonaligned conference. The main principle is that Egypt should have normal relations with all states, including the Soviet Union. Our relations with the Soviet Union deteriorated and the idea is to restore normal relations, if the right circumstances prevail. There is no connection between restoring normal relations with the Soviet Union and the nonaligned conference.

[Question] Egypt broke off relations with Cyprus and Bulgaria, and Egypt's relations with Europe's socialist states have worsened. When will these relations be restored and what were the causes of the estrangement?

[Answer] The year 1983 will be the year of restoring relations. We have initiated economic openness toward these states, and this is a pointer toward an improvement in diplomatic relations.

[Question] Is there a possibility of better relations with Libya? It has been reported that envoys have arrived from Libya for this purpose.

[Answer] There is nothing new. Clearly there is good neighborliness, but no relations of good neighborliness.

[Question] Egypt intends to hold military exercises in Sinai. Israel is upset about it.

[Answer] When Egypt holds exercises and training in Sinai, it does so in areas defined in the treaty and with numbers whose presence in these areas is also accepted under the treaty. This does not and should not upset anybody. It is natural for us to carry out exercises. The forces need training. This is Egypt's right under the treaty. Israel has not tried to raise this issue at all.

[Question] Egypt has decided to extend an invitation to Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat to visit Cairo. Are you quite prepared to invite him officially?

[Answer] Egypt has repeatedly said that it would welcome a visit to Cairo by Yasir 'Arafat. It continues to say this. President Husni Mubarak said it and the prime minister said it. There are no formalities between Yasir 'Arafat and Cairo. He is welcome to visit Cairo any time he likes.

SAUDI CROWN PRINCE RETURNS TO BAGHDAD 17 JAN

JN171549 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1542 GMT 17 Jan 83

[Text] Baghdad, 17 Jan (INA) -- Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Saudi crown prince and first deputy prime minister, arrived here this afternoon on a visit to Iraq. He was received by 'Izzat Ibrahim, Revolution Command Council [RCC] vice chairman; Tariq 'Aziz, RCC member and deputy prime minister; Hasan 'Ali, RCC member and trade minister; Latif Nusayyif Jasim, minister of culture and information; and a number of officials.

Received by Husayn

JN181134 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1105 GMT 18 Jan 83

[Text] Baghdad, 18 Jan (INA) -- Late last night President Saddam Husayn received His Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Saudi crown prince, first deputy prime minister, commander of the National Guard. The two sides discussed relations and the current Arab situation in general

'Izzat Ibrahim, Revolution Command Council vice chairman, attended the meeting.

The Saudi official arrived here yesterday on a short visit.

SADDAM HUSAYN RETURNS HOME FROM RIYADH VISIT

LD191550 Kuwait KUNA in English 1010 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] Baghdad, Jan 19 (KUNA) -- President Saddam Husayn returned home late Tuesday night from Saudi Arabia where he discussed the 28-month Iraqi-Iranian war and other issues of mutual concern.

During his brief unannounced visit to Riyadh, the Iraqi president also discussed bilateral relations and the current Arab scene with King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and Crown Prince and Chief of the Saudi National Guard Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz.

Saddam was seen off in Riyadh by the deputy chief of the National Guard, Prince Badar ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, and the Riyadh province amir, Prince Salman ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, and other senior Saudi officials.

The Iraqi president's sudden visit to the kingdom followed discreet shuttles between Damascus and Baghdad by the Saudi Crown Prince and Chief of the National Guard Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz during the last three days.

Prince 'Abdallah, who is also first deputy premier, carried messages to President Hafiz al-Asad of Syria and Saddam Husayn of Iraq from King Fahd, and made repeated visits to the capitals before returning home in the company of President Saddam Husayn.

Unconfirmed reports in the Saudi capital said the Saudi move was primarily concerned with patching up the rift between Baghdad and Damascus in a prelude to a settlement of the war between Iraq and Iran.

Prince 'Abdallah arrived here on the same plane with President Saddam on a visit to Iraq, Iraqi sources said Wednesday without elaborating on the nature of the visit, which seems to be a continuation of the dialogue with the Syrian and Iraqi leaders on the points on hand.

IRANIAN BATTLE LOSSES REPORTED 18-19 JAN

Communique No 969

JN181716 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 18 Jan 83

[Communique No 969 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 18 January]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our brave armed forces continued their daring activities in the operational sectors against the Iranian aggressors. The following are the results of the operations that raged last night and today:

1. Our forward units pounded an enemy concentration opposite our positions in the Maysan operational sector, killing four and destroying one vehicle and one observation post.

2. Two were killed and one 106-mm gun and one hardware stockpile destroyed in the central operational sector.

3. Two were killed in the northern operational sector.

4. Two vehicles and one infantry position were destroyed and the position's occupants killed in the area east of Basra.

5. Using artillery, the spiteful Iranian regime today shelled Basra, Khanaqin, Mandali and Zurbatiyah, damaging some civilian installations there.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 18 January 1983

Communique No 970

JN191642 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1630 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] Baghdad, 19 Jan (INA) -- An Iraqi military communique issued here this evening stated that the Iranian enemy's losses yesterday evening and today are two killed and an infantry position in the central sector of the battlefield destroyed. The following is the text of the communique:

Communique No 970 issued by the Armed Forces General Command:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The results of our valiant forces' activities against the forces of the rancorous enemy yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. One was killed and one infantry position destroyed in the central sector of the battlefield.

2. One was killed in the Maysan sector.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 19 January 1983

BRIEFS

OUTGOING PHILIPPINES AMBASSADOR -- Baghdad, 17 Jan (INA) -- Taha Yasin Ramadan, Revolution Command Council member and first deputy prime minister, this morning met with Philippines Ambassador in Baghdad Jose Cruz on the expiration of his term of duty in Iraq. [Excerpt] [Baghdad INA in Arabic 1415 GMT 17 Jan 83 JN]

KING HUSAYN TO VISIT BELGIUM 26-29 JANUARY

LD191720 Brussels in French to Africa 1600 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Excerpts] King Husayn of Jordan will pay a working visit to Belgium next week. The Hashemite king will be in Brussels 26-29 January. He will hold talks with Leo Tindemands, minister of external affairs, as well as with Prime Minister Wilfried Martens. He will also receive President of the European Commission Gaston Thorn. The discussions will probably cover the situation in the Middle East and on the role that might be played there by Jordan in the quest for a solution to the Israeli-Arab conflict.

KING HUSAYN TO VISIT SPAIN AT END OF JANUARY

LD192033 Madrid Domestic Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] King Husayn of Jordan will visit Spain at the end of the month to ask the Spanish authorities for support for the talks to bring peace to the Near East.

BADRAN BRIEFS CABINET ON IRAQI, SAUDI TALKS

JN191540 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] Prime Minister Mudar Badran chairmed a cabinet meeting this afternoon. The prime minister reviewed the discussions which His Majesty King Husayn held with President Saddam Husayn and His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz on several Arab issues, particularly the Palestinian issue. They discussed action within the framework of the political option in accordance with existing Arab and international factors. They also analyzed the situation in the occupied Palestinian land under the aggressive Israel program, which aims at annexing the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, and the consequences of this on Jordan's national security.

The prime Minister expressed satisfaction with the results of the discussions because they were characterized by a sincere perception of pan-Arab responsibility and a realistic attitude toward challenges and means of tacking them.

NCC SENDS REPLY MESSAGE TO USSR PRESIDIUM

JN171054 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 18 Jan 83 p 16

[Text] Amman, (AD-DUSTUR) -- Sulayman 'Arar, speaker of the National Concultative Council [NCC], has said that the Jordanian people appreciate all calls for peace and justice among namkind. He added that despite the harm inflicted on the Arab nation by the criminal Israeli aggression, the Jordanian people have not forgotten the issue of peace.

This came in a message which 'Arar sent to the presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet in reply to the USSR peace message which he received from the CPSU Central Committee on the 60th anniversary of the founding of the USSR. In its message, the USSR announced its readiness to freeze its arsenal of nuclear arms on an equal footing with the United States as well as to destroy the chemical weapons and settle conflicts through peaceful means so that peace can prevail in the world.

'Arar said in his message: We believe in the importance of justice while talking about peace, because peace will never prevail or continue unless it is based on justice and mutual respect of all rights. This homeland -- the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan -- has exerted every possible effort unilaterally and within the Arab League and all regional and international organizations and conferences to explain the importance of peace and justice and the need to reach a formula which fortifies civilization and mankind against the possibilities of destruction and annihilation.

'Arar added: The visit which His Majesty King Husayn paid to your great country a few weeks ago at the head of an Arab delegation searching to bring peace to a region suffering from injustice due to Israeli arrogance, was a true and sincere expression of this nation's belief in the importance of peace and the need to attain it.

'Arar announced the NCC's support for the Soviet call for freezing nuclear armament, halting nuclear tests, and both banning and destroying chemical weapons.

He said: While supporting and greatly appreciating the friendly USSR's gesture in this regard, we would like to point out that Israel has become one of the largest and most important warehouses of such weapons. It used them in its aggressive war against the Palestininan and Lebanese peoples, disregarding values and all calls to refrain from using such weapons.

Concluding, he said: While supporting your call for peace, we hope that this call will meet positive response from the United States and other states which possess such weapons in the hope that peace and justice may prevail.

JORDAN TIMES ON U.S. ROLE IN LEBANON TALKS

JN161152 Ammam JORDAN TIMES in English 16 Jan 83 p 4

[Editorial: "This Is What Faith Brings"]

[Text] The agreement by Lebanese, Israeli, and American negotiators on the agenda for the talks taking place in Lebanon and Israel on the withdrawal of all non-Lebanese troops from Lebanon evokes unpleasant memories of similar tripartite negotiations that took place for several year recently among Israel, Egypt, and the United States. In those talks, the Americans consistently injected their own ideas into discussions when things appeared to be stalled, and more often than not an agreement was reached, culminating in the Camp David Accords and subsequent discussions. In fact, the result nearly always turned out to be closer to what Israel wanted than to what the Egyptians or the Americans wanted. The final result of the negotiations with Egypt was very much to Israel's liking -- as we have seen since in the West Bank, Gaza and Lebanon.

A similar situation appears to be developing now in the talks on Lebanon. The American proposal that has been accepted this week provides for an agenda that discusses several issues simultaneously. Included in the agenda, along with the withdrawal of foreign troops from Lebanon, is the question of "mutual relations", the make-believe term the Americans provided to replace the Israeli concept or normalisation of ties between Israel and Lebanon. Mutual relations will include commercial ties, communications and an end to hostile propaganda. Sounds like normalisation to us, no matter what the words are used to describe it.

In other words, the signs are that Israel is slowly but surely translating its military adventure in Lebanon into practical political gains--or, if you remember as far back as the autumn of 1982, a very long time ago in the memory of American politicians, precisely the thing that we were told the United States Government did not want to see happen. But it is happening, and with the active participation and usual linguistic flare of the highest echelons of the United States Government. What Israeli troops started with American arms and money and acquiescence, Israeli negotiators are concluding with American words, cajoling and active participation.

This may not be the time to raise such matters, but would someone please explain to us how we are supposed to fit this nice little bit of political double-dealing into the balmy first weeks of 1983, the year in which we are supposed to have faith in America?

SUPREME SOVIET MEMBER ARRIVES IN BEIRUT 19 JAN

NC191556 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] Member of the Supreme Soviet (Ustinov) arrived in Beirut at 1640 from Moscow on a 1-week visit during which he will meet with a number of senior officials.

(Ustinov) made a statement in which he said that the visit aims at expressing Soviet support for the Lebanese people and solidarity between the Lebanese and the Soviet peoples. He added: The Soviet Union which supports Lebanon's integrity, sovereignty, and independence, hopes that the Lebanese people will be able to put a final end to the Israeli occupation of their territory.

In reply to a question about the U.S. role in light of Ambassador Philip Habib's contacts, he said: No separate agreement can establish peace in the Middle East. This became evident with Camp David -- this agreement which led [words indistinct].

HADDAD'S MILITIA REPORTEDLY STORMED MONASTERY

NC191452 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1330 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] Last night, gunmen of Sa'd Haddad's militia stormed Al-Jiyah Monastery during a Phalangist meeting. They opened fire with automatic weapons and threw handgrenades at the conferees, and then withdrew. It has been learned that there were several casualties among the militiamen. It has been reported that the Phalangist militias have been using the monastery as a meeting place and a center for arms and ammunition since the Israeli invasion of Lebanon. It has also been learned that Haddad has addressed covert threats to the Phalangists in several areas, particularly in the south, to stop their provocations against his men and to stop their attempts to extend their influence in many villages.

It is known that this incident is one of a series of incidents which took place in the past within the framework of rivalry over influence in the occupied areas.

AL-JUMAYYIL, AL-WAZZAN SPEAK TO CABINET ON TALKS

NC192034 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] The Cabinet meeting ended at 2030 today, and after the meeting, Shafiq Munayni released the following official information:

The Cabinet held its weekly meeting at 1800 on Wednesday, 19 January 1983, under the chairmanship of His Excellency President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil and in the presence of Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan and the ministers.

At the beginning of the meeting, his excellency the president of the republic spoke about the relative calm in Tripoli and the mountain and stressed the need to expedite the political negotiations to enable the Lebanese Army to carry out its security tasks throughout Lebanon. He focused on the need to adopt the necessary measures in this regard.

His excellency then raised the issue of the Lebanese-Israeli-U.S. negotiations, which aim at bringing about the withdrawal of all non-Lebanese forces from Lebanon, pointing out that these negotiations have entered a new stage with the start of negotiations on the substance of the issues.

His excellency explained that there are two kinds of negotiations which are taking place simultaneously. They are the negotiations which are taking place in Khaldah and Qiryat Shemona among the three delegations and the negotiations which are being conducted by U.S. presidential envoy Ambassador Philip Habib.

His excellency asked the ministers to expedite the preparation of the draft legislative decrees, particularly those pertaining to essential matters, to enable the Cabinet to discuss and approve them as soon as possible and within the time limit.

His excellency stressed the importance of expediting the completion of studies and bills on national service, because national service is the duty of every Lebanese and because it is the source of salvation and will strengthen the Lebanese Army. It is known that the implementation of the national service law will take place in stages.

Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan also spoke in the meeting, affirming that the security situation in general is improving. He stressed the need for the deployment of the Lebanese Army to maintain security and protect the citizens all over Lebanon, with the help of the multinational force in the first stage.

The Cabinet then discussed the subjects on its agenda and adopted the appropriate decisions concerning them.

Al-Jumayyil Chairs Meeting

NC192040 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] After the Cabinet meeting this evening, President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil chaired a meeting of the political operations staff and the Lebanese delegation to the negotiations led by Ambassador Antoine Fattal. The meeting prepared for the eighth round of the Lebanese-Israeli-U.S. negotiations, which will take place in Qiryat Shemona tomorrow.

AL-WAZZAN, SALIM FOREIGN INTERVIEWS QUOTED

NC191514 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1330 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] In an interview with a Soviet paper, Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan has said that Lebanon is giving absolute priority in the negotiations with Israel to the restoration of its sovereignty and to putting an end to the Israeli occupation.

He affirmed that the basis of the Lebanese crisis is an outside plot which exploited the Arab world's lack of solidarity, which did exist in Lebanon. The prime minister said that Lebanon had called for drawing up a joint strategy to avert the danger but that it found no attentive ears. The result was that it was subjected to an aggression. He expressed the hope that the Arab states will help Lebanon.

Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim on the other hand said in an interview with the British newspaper THE GUARDIAN that he is completely sure of the withdrawal of the Syrian and Palestinian forces from Lebanon after Israel agrees to withdraw its forces. Salim expressed cautious optimism regarding the possibility of soon achieving Lebanon's aim concerning the withdrawals.

AL-WAZZAN FOLLOWS UP KIDNAPPING DETAINEE CASES

NC181320 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 18 Jan 83

[Text] Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan is personally following up the question of kidnapped, missing, and detained people.

In this respect, Prime Minister al-Wazzan addressed a letter to Minister of Justice Roger Shaykhani in which he said: We have followed up the question of kidnapped and detained persons. A long time has passed without any progress being made, particularly in respect to kidnapped persons. Therefore, we are providing you first with a list of kidnapped and missing persons and the date they were kidnapped, and second, with a list of those detained and the date of their arrest. We request that legal action be taken and an official investigation conducted as soon as possible to determine the fate of the kidnapped persons and their release, the completion of the investigation of the detainees, and the adoption of all necessary legal action.

Later today, President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil met with Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan and Justice and Information Minister Roger Shaykhani to discuss several matters.

ARTILLERY EXCHANGES IN MOUNTAIN; TRIPOLI CALM

NC200734 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] After a calm day yesterday, the situation became tense in the mountain at about 2100. Artillery exchanges took place between Suq al-Gharb and 'Aytat and shells fell in the two towns. Shelling was renewed at night between Kafr Shima, Bsaba and Al-Ma'rufiyah and the clashes stopped late at night. In the 'Alayh area no significant incident was reported yesterday and calm prevailed in the area while businesses and establishments reopened. Security reports indicate that the roads leading to the city are regarded cut because of the present caution but the international highway saw partial traffic movement which soon stopped when the Israelis cut the highway in both directions at Mat'am al-Mat'am and started opening bursts of machinegun fire on both sides of the road down to the Al-'Abbadiyah woods, Shuwayt and 'Arayya. The Bkhishtay-Rishmayya-Ma'sritti road remained cut.

In Beirut, an Internal Security Forces' report indicates that the Lebanese, 'Ali Frayz Sahrur and Hasan Fayiz Braysh, were killed yesterday afternoon by a mine explosion while gathering pieces of metal near the sports city.

In the north, the efforts made by political and party functionaries, the Northern Coordination Committee, and Brigadier General 'Uthman 'Uthman have been fruitful and led to the implementation of the new security measures. A barrier in Tal'at al-Qubbah was removed yesterday and a security forces checkpoint was set up instead. The fixed police post at Al-Mallulah circle has been reinforced and patrols have been deployed in all streets in Tripoli.

It has been agreed to remove the large barrier in the vegetable market today as a first step toward eliminating all the barriers in At-Tabbanah and Ash-Sha'rani quarter in Al-Qubbah. It has been decided to send more committees to these quarters to supervise the implementation of the agreements and to pave the way for a general reconciliation which will be the last step in the drawn-up program. Under this atmosphere, Tripoli saw normal life yesterday and various establishments reopened and its streets witnessed heavy traffic.

KHADDAM SENDS MESSAGE TO UN ON ISRAELI THREATS

JN191953 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has sent the following two messages to the president of the UN Security Council and the UN secretary general:

I have the honor of drawing your attention in advance to the seriousness of the aggressive statements which have been recently and repeatedly made by the Israeli authorities because these statements contained threats to use force against installations inside the territories of the Syrian Arab Republic used for air defense.

I wish to draw your special attention to the fact that Israel has always used such statements and pretexts prior to any aggression against the neighboring countries, examples of which are kept in the records of the UN Security Council.

Israel used such pretexts before its invasion and occupation of parts of Lebanon and prior to its attack on the Iraqi nuclear reactor, which was used for peaceful purposes.

These statements indicate that Israel intends to carry out aggressive acts against the Syrian Arab Republic. Therefore, it is now the duty of the Syrian Arab Government to warn of the seriousness of the situation Israel has caused because of its statements and threats, thus violating the rules of the UN Charter, the principles of international law, and the related UN resolutions.

These Israeli threats and statements not only increase tension and threaten security in the region, but also constitute a direct threat to world peace and security. As the Syrian Arab Government has the right to raise the issue at the UN Security Council in case the aggressive Israeli threats continue, it wishes to see that this message is circulated as an official document of the UN Security Council and the General Assembly.

DAMASCUS TISHRIN ON DEPLOYMENT OF SAM-5'S

JN200717 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 20 Jan 83

[From the Press Review]

[Text] Commenting on the clamor Washington and Israel are making over the deployment of Sam-5's in Syria, the newspaper TISHRIN says: It stands to reason that any country in the world has the right to possess defensive weapons so long as the security and peace of this country are threatened externally. All the evidence confirms that Syria is threatened by Israel, which might possibly attack Syria as and when it deems fit to accomplish geographical, political, and military gains not only against Syria, but also against the Arabs at large.

Continuing, TISHRIN says that the CIA, the State Department, the White House, and the other U.S. policymakers are currently focusing on the missile issue and on the dangers that menace Israel as a result of the deployment of these missiles in Syria. The military leaders in Tel Aviv and Israel's propaganda media are pursuing a different course; they are naively talking about the threats these missiles pose to U.S. security. They claim that these missiles threaten the U.S. Air Force in the Mediterranean. Accordingly, the SAM-5's are posing a threat to the United States and Israel.

TISHRIN adds that these missiles are merely defensive. President Reagan is well aware that these missiles are only used against aircraft that intended to carry out aggression. Likewise, Begin, Shamir, and the rest of the ruling Israeli team are also well aware of this.

Reagan and the Israeli ruling team can easily differentiate between defensive and offensive weapons. They can easily tell that Israel's offensive weapons not only threaten Syria but actually threaten any Arab country irrespective of its geographical location, because these weapons are the most advanced offensive weapons ever manufactured by U.S. technology.

TISHRIN asks: What logic in the world can allow Israel to possess the most advanced destructive weapons and to use them against Arab sovereignty but does not allow the Arabs to possess weapons to defend themselves? The paper affirms that this propaganda clamor engineered by the highest policymakers in Washington is purely a far-reaching information campaign. Those who are launching this campaign are well aware that these missiles are only fired at aggressors. It appears that Israel, prompted by an urgent U.S. desire, seeks to explode the region anew through an attack against Syria before Syria realizes a strategic balance with the enemy, so that the United States can impose its hegemony over the region. This will absolutely not be attained.

SYRIAN-PALESTINIAN COMMITTEE TO MEET 'NEXT WEEK'

GF190514 Doha QNA in Arabic 1915 GMT 18 Jan 83

[Text] Damascus, 18 Jan (QNA) -- The QNA correspondent in Damascus learned from official Palestinian sources here today that the Syrian-Palestinian talks between a leading Palestinian delegation led by Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Politicial Department, and a Syrian delegation led by 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign affairs minister, will resume in Damascus early next week to enhance and solidify Syrian-Palestinian relations on strategic bases.

A similar meeting was held in Damascus early this week between a leading Palestinian delegation that included a number of Executive Committee members and a Syrian delegation led by 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, during which the current situation in the region and bilateral relations and the means of furthering and improving them were reviewed.

OFFICIAL REITERATES ADHERENCE TO FES RESOLUTIONS

JN200828 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0800 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] A responsible Syrian official yesterday dismissed reports that Syria has retracted from its approval of the resolutions of the Fes summit conference, stressing that Damascus is still committed to these resolutions and to its participation in the seven-member Arab committee. The Syrian denial comes to refute reports published by the Abu Dhabi newspaper AL-KHALIJ yesterday.

IRANIAN FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES ON OFFICIAL VISIT

JN201123 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] Iranian Foreign Minister Dr 'Ali Akbar Velayati arrived in Damascus today on an official visit to Syria that will last several days. He was received at Damascus international airport by 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister.

Sees Al-Asad

JN201227 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] At 1315 today, President Hafiz al-Asad received 'Ali Akbar Velayati, foreign minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and his delegation. The meeting was attended by 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and 'Ali Akbar Mohtashemi, the Iranian ambassador in Damascus.

ATH-THAWRAH DENOUNCES U.S. MILITARY BUILDUP

JN150825 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 15 Jan 83

[From the Press Review]

[Text] ATH-THAWRAH comments on the threats that are being posed to the region. The paper says: The anxiety that the international community is showing over the U.S. decision to increase the number of its military forces in the Middle East and redeploy them in a provocative and offensive manner is justified by the facts. Such a decision means that the Reagan administration insists on exacerbating tension in the region and that the peace which the Reagan administration is calling for is merely a political cover for its strategic schemes which aim at subjugating the Arabs and controlling their resources.

The secret plan formulated by the Pentagon for this purpose and revealed by Western sources is proof of the extent of the danger posed by U.S. policy to the current and future situation in the Middle East. Under this plan, the Reagan administration will seek to establish open bridges between its forces stationed in Western Europe and the Rapid Deployment Forces which will be stationed in the territorial waters of this region. Through this strategic linkage, the United States will seek to tighten its military and political control over the Arab countries. At the same time, it would have canceled the will of others through the implementation of the so-called comprehensive settlements.

The paper adds: The danger that lies behind this is that the Reagan administration has found some forces and regimes which approve such schemes and plans. Instead of confronting U.S. interference in their homelands and territories, these forces and regimes are doing the opposite and proposals are being submitted condoning what the United States is trying to achieve behind the excuse of repelling external threats which are being posed to the region.

ATH-THAWRAH says: Is there a greater threat posed to the Arabs than the United States? Didn't the United States participate in Israel's recent invasion of Lebanon? Isn't the Reagan administration seeking through every method to consolidate the results of this invasion and impose Israel's conditions on the Arabs?

The time has come for the Arab masses to raise their voices, to move in all directions to protect their pan-Arab existence from the U.S. threats, and to take to account all those who contribute in bringing U.S. forces to Arab lands.

BA'TH, SRV COMMUNIST PARTIES SIGN AGREEMENT

JN171440 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 17 Jan 83

[Text] The session of bilateral discussions between the Ba'th Party delegation led by Comrade Ahmad al-Hasan, reserve member of the National Command, and the Vietnamese Communist Party [VCP] delegation led by Comrade Le Duc Binh, member of the VCP Central Committee, were resumed at the Regional Command offices this morning. The two sides signed a cooperative agreement for 1983-1984.

Comrade Muhammad Haydar, member of the National Command and head of the Foreign Relations Office, received the VCP delegation this afternoon. The head of the Vietnamese delegation conveyed greetings from the VCP Central Committee to the National Command. The talks dealt with the developments in the international situation, particularly the tense situation in the Middle East.

Comrade Haydar explained Syria's and the party's position against the imperialist and Zionist conspiracies which aim at liquidating the Palestinian issue and consolidating the Zionist occupation of occupied Arab territories.

The head of the guest delegation affirmed the support of the Vietnamese people for the struggle of Syria and the Arab nation in confronting these conspiracies. He expressed his country's support for a just and comprehensive settlement to the Palestinian issue.

Al-Ahmar, VCP Visitor Talks

JN181538 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 18 Jan 83

[Text] Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, has discussed with the Vietnamese Communist Party [VCP] delegation led by Comrade Le Duc Binh, member of the VCP Central Committee, the strong relations between the two parties and means to promote these relations in the service of the two parties and countries.

While receiving the guest delegation today, Comrade al-Ahmar explained the dimensions of the imperialist conspiracies engineered by the United States against Indochinese, Latin American, and Arab peoples. These conspiracies are embodied now in the Zionist invasion of Lebanon with U.S. participation and the efforts exerted by the Camp David partners to drag new parties toward capitulation.

Al-Ahmar also explained the role of the Ba'th Party and its revolution in Syria under the leadership of struggler Comrade Hafiz al-Asad in the steadfastness against the Zionist-imperialist plans. He said: We will stand fast in the face of these schemes and will pursue this road irrespective of difficulties in order to regain the occupied territories and the legitimate rights of the Arab Palestinian people so that they may establish their independent state on their national soil.

Comrade Le Duc Binh, head of the Vietnamese delegation, praised the role of the Ba'th Party and Syria in confronting the Zionist-imperialist plots.

At the end of the meeting, Comrade Le Duc Binh conveyed the greetings of his party's leadership to the leadership of the Ba'th Party and expressed satisfaction with the talks and their results, which will contribute to the development of relations in the service of the two friendly parties and countries.

Delegation Departs 18 Jan

JN181936 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1750 GMT 18 Jan 83

[Text] Damascus, 18 Jan (SANA) -- The Vietnamese Communist Party [VCP] delegation led by Comrade Le Duc Binh, member of the VCP Central Committee, left Damascus this evening at the end of a weeklong visit to Syria at the invitation from the National Command of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party.

During the visit, the delegation held party and political talks with the comrade officials in the party's leadership, resulting in a cooperation agreement between the two parties.

The delegation was seen off at Damascus international airport by Comrade Ahmad al-Hasan, National Command reserve member, several party comrades, the Vietnamese charge d'affairs in Damascus, and the embassy staff.

SANA REPORTS ON IRAQI OPPOSITION FORCES

JN192102 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1450 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] Baghdad, 19 Jan (SANA) -- The Popular Armed Forces of the Democratic, National, and Patriotic Front in Iraq have carried out several military operations against the mercenaries and institutions of the Iraqi regime in various areas of Iraq.

In recent statements, the Popular Armed Forces Command said that the Popular Forces were able to inflict heavy losses in life and equipment on the Iraqi regime during November and December 1982.

The statements said that the Popular Forces had inflicted 276 killed and 92 wounded on the Iraqi regime. They also destroyed 4 military vehicles, shot down 2 helicopters and captured 242 personnel, 28 rifles, and Kalashnikov machineguns, several RPG's, 8 vehicles, military hardware, and various ammunition.

These revolutionary operations took place in Sinka, Barzinjah, (Kurdan), As-Sulaymaniyah, (Qarda'), (Darbandi Khan), (Aghjlar), (Bukrah Ju), Qala'ah Chulan, (Surah Qlat), Sayyid Sadiq, (Chuwar Qurnah), (Klar Mawt), Quysanjaq, Taqtaq, (Turkishkan), Chiman, (Quntran), (Tuz), (Julayha), (Nalbarayr), and Sabikhah, in addition to many other cities and areas.

In addition, the Iraqi Popular Organizations Committee has stressed that the agent regime in Baghdad is no longer capable of concealing its suspect relationship with the plot that is being hatched against our Arab nation by imperialism, Zionism, and reactionary forces. The agent regime is also no longer capable of concealing its role and keeping secret its close connections with imperialist and reactionary plans.

In recent statements, the committee said that the recent statements of Saddam Husayn and Tariq 'Aziz have irrefutably proven that the Iraqi regime is involved in Camp David and all the suspect plans which are being concocted against our Arab national and its central issue of Palestine.

The statement denounced the fascist Iraqi regime's call to recognize the Zionist entity and reinstate Egypt. It also said that our masses' determination will not be affected by the statements of those traitors and will continue building the required edifice of a unified and socialist Arab society, fulfilling the aspirations of the masses and their objectives in unity, freedom, and socialism, and allowing Iraq to resume its vanguard role in the march of the glorious struggle of our people and Arab nation.

SHAMIR INTERVIEW ON LEBANON, CURRENT AFFAIRS

TA191502 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1410 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Interview with Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by correspondents Shim'on Schiffer and Razi Barqay and moderator Yitzhaq Golan, in the studio -- live]

[Text] [Barqay] Shalom, Mr Minister. I thank you for making time between one meeting with Ambassador Habib to another to come to our studio. Maybe we should open with the subject of Lebanon. According to the media, the subjects that are difficult to settle concern the warning stations and normalization. What is it all about?

[Shamir] The negotiations between Israel and Lebanon deal with three overall problems -- security arrangements, the relations between Israel and Lebanon, and the arrangements [sidurey] for the withdrawal of the IDF in the framework of the evacuation of all the foreign forces from Lebanon. The discussions and negotiations have been held with Lebanon for about 3 weeks already, in direct negotiations in Khaldah and in Qiryat Shemona. The negotiations are held in a good atmosphere, with all the sides -- us, the United States, and the Lebanese -- doing all they can in order to reach an agreement [heskem] on all subjects discussed. The security arrangements [hesderey] are intended to ensure that after the IDF leaves Lebanese soil -- and everybody knows that we want to leave Lebanon -- Lebanon will not again turn into a base for attacking Israel, and that neither the PLO nor any other force will return to our border with Lebanon.

The framework of normal relations with Lebanon should ensure us that there will be full and close cooperation between Israel and Lebanon in order to maintain security in the security zone and in all the other areas of Lebanon related to Israel's security. The evacuation of all the foreign forces will be the last stage, when the time comes, after agreements are reached and signed on the former subjects, that is, security arrangements and a framework for relations.

[Question] But I asked specifically about the warning stations.

[Shamir] The warning stations are part of the security arrangements inside the security zone.

[Question] Will we give in to the pressures and demands not to have an IDF presence at the warning stations? Is it accepted, is there a precedent that such warning stations between two countries are manned by the army of another country?

[Answer] We did not present this demand and include this as a condition in the security arrangements we desired just in order to give it up. The security arrangements between us and Lebanon will be based on full and daily cooperation between the IDF and the Lebanese Army. This calls for constant alertness, frequent meetings, awareness, cooperation in intelligence, and in steps to be taken when a danger appears or is discovered. The warning stations are part of these arrangements.

[Question] But there are some things unclear in the negotiations. First, there were, so it is said, secret contacts, and Ari'el Sharon presented in the Cabinet meeting the document he reached with Lebanon, which actually included all these subjects, and afterward, open negotiations began. Now Habib has entered the picture and currently negotiations are beginning with Habib. What is the duty of the United States in these negotiations? What do you want to achieve with Philip Habib in these discussions, and what is the value of this paper presented by Arik Sharon to the Cabinet if all these starting points are still discussed?

[Shamir] The negotiations are held between Israel and Lebanon with the participation of the U.S. delegates. The United States, the U.S. delegates are friends of Israel and Lebanon. Lebanon relies on them. Lebanon today is a very weak country. The Government of Lebanon is subject to unceasing pressures from the Arab countries. It relies, it leans on the United States, and therefore, the participation of the United States is natural. We are not against this participation when it helps the sides to reach an agreement [heskem]. We discuss the same subjects because these are the subjects on which agreement should be reached, and as is known, the direct negotiations have only been held for 3 weeks, and this is not long for such negotiations. It is clear that there were various contacts and negotiations that were not held through open and official channels. Achievements were reached, but the special situation in Lebanon should be understood. Not everything you achieve, or think you have achieved today, remains valid tomorrow. There is a framework of conditions that should be considered. Philip Habib was sent today by the U.S. President in order to do all that can be done to accelerate negotiations. In fact, we talk with him about the same things we talk about with the Lebanese delegates, because the goals of the United States are the same as ours. [interrupted]

[Question] Are there no differences of opinion between Israel and the United States?

[Answer] There are differences regarding the ways to reach those goals. There are, consequently, talks in which each party tries to convince the other and attempts are made to find a common language, reach joint declarations, shared ideas. Since the United States, because of its important role in these negotiations, wants -- at this stage through Philip Habib -- to reach positions that are more or less shared with Israel.

[Question] Mr Shamir, you mentioned the early warning stations as a condition which Israel will insist on, and yet we have heard from the United States that neither the Syrians nor the Lebanese are prepared under any circumstances to accept an Israeli presence, that of IDF soldiers, inside Lebanon, at those early warning stations. The question is whether you believe it is possible to reach an agreement [heskem] with Lebanon in which that country would give up part of its sovereignty, that is, accept an Israeli presence on its soil?

[Answer] This would be a temporary presence. We are talking about full security cooperation between us and the Lebanese, which is why there have been precedents like this and all sorts of arrangements [hesderim] of this nature after battles. Temporary arrangements were decided upon when under the present circumstances, Lebanon alone cannot guarantee or give us assurances that it is within its power alone to prevent terrorist elements from returning, for instance, to the border.

[Question] When you are talking about a temporary arrangement [hesder], will Israel, after some time, consider the possibility of these stations being manned by U.S. soldiers?

[Answer] We are not talking about U.S. soldiers. We are talking about a temporary Israeli presence, an agreed presence for an agreed period of time -- agreed with the Lebanese side. After that time elapses, I presume there will be no need for these early warning stations.

[Question] You talk about a limited period of time and yet you emphasize Lebanon's internal weakness. Could this period be rather extended, up until a truly stable government that could rule the country is established there?

[Answer] When one reaches such an agreement [heskem], the assumption is that the government with which one talks and which one negotiates with will have adequate power at some time, and not a long time at that.

[Question] What does the term 'some time' mean? It is a very vague term.

[Answer] I would not like to mention a specific time here, because this is something we will have to discuss and negotiate. I can only say, for example, that the possibility exists -- without mentioning a specific length of time -- that this would continue until a peace treaty is signed between Israel and Lebanon. This possibility exists, or alternatively, the possibility exists that this period would last a few year.

[Question] Excuse me, perhaps on this point raised by my colleague Mr Schiffer, it seems to me that you failed to present -- or at least I could not understand from your remarks -- who is to blame for the gap between the breakthrough document heralding a peace arrangement [hesder] that the defense minister presented to the government and today's reality, with the distance between the two rather marked, to use an understatement?

[Answer] Since we are in the midst of negotiations, I would not like to put the blame on anyone.

[Question] But in fact, by your response you are putting the blame on someone. By your very unclear sentence, when you said you would not like to blame anyone, you are actually saying: Ask the one who said he brought that document?

[Answer] I did not say that, and did not mean that.

[Question] Mr Shamir, are we touching upon the tip of the tension prevailing between the Defense Ministry and the Foreign Ministry?

[Answer] Ah, finally. [laughter]

[Question] Can you confirm that there really is a battle of prestige between these two ministries in reaching achievements in Lebanon?

[Answer] This is nonsense. There is no tension or competition over prestige. There is full coordination on all the activity currently underway in order to reach an agreement [heskem] that would allow us to remove the IDF from Lebanon and guarantee Israel's vital security demands [drishot].

[Question] What about the defense minister's arrival in Qiryat Shemona in order to declare a breakthrough and an agreement [heskem] on the agenda? Was this coordinated with you?

[Answer] I do not have to accept each and every move the defense minister makes. I know that that day he was on a tour of the north, in Lebanon, and happened to be in Qiryat Shemona.

[Question] Mr Minister, perhaps something more about the talks with Lebanon. Could you enlighten us about Syria's status in these negotiations? Do you think the Syrians would actually reach a situation where they would agree to have their forces removed and with them the PLO?

[Answer] It is not a question of belief. There are two possibilities: Either they get out or they do not. We have no direct contact with them, we are not conversing with them. Perhaps the time may come when we will, but today the Lebanese, the Americans talk with them, and what we have been hearing from them is that the Syrians would be prepared to leave Lebanese soil.

[Question] President Mubarak was quoted in one of the newspapers, I believe the British GUARDIAN, as having said that Israel and Syria are in fact not too eager or pressing to have their forces removed from Lebanon, and that there is a sort of tacit agreement between them to agree on partitioning Lebanon. What is your reaction to these remarks?

[Answer] I have heard these things a number of times and I must say they are completely unfounded and utterly baseless. I am surprised at President Mubarak and others who express this opinion and who publicly give vent to opinions and views that are totally groundless.

[Question] Mr Shamir, government spokesman used to say after the Peace for Galilee Operation that we have contributed toward increasing the U.S. status here in the region, yet the reports that are coming in now talk about Soviet penetration into Syria, that SAM-5's have been introduced, and they actually reveal a different picture, further entangling the relations between the two superpowers.

[Answer] There is no Soviet penetration into Syria, because it has been there for many years now.

[Question] Has this presence not deepened?

[Answer] The Soviet Union has no need to penetrate Syria. Missiles were already there and there was also Soviet manpower in Syria, as is the case today, and the latest move is part of the Soviet policy and I believe there is no surprise here and that it does not change the fundamental relations between the United States and the Soviet Union even in the Mediterranean region.

[Question] We have heard reports on either direct or indirect contacts between Israel and the new Andropov regime on this specific issue. Could you confirm that indeed, ever since Andropov took office in the Kremlin there have been such contacts between us and him?

[Answer] Unfortunately, there have been no contacts.

[Question] Mr Shamir, permit me to return to Syria, the PLO, and in general the question of the war in Lebanon: The U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT, which is a semi-official U.S. Government weekly, today published the assessment of U.S. experts who say that the war in Lebanon has not liquidated the PLO and that in fact it has strengthened it both politically and militarily. It is showing signs of recuperation and it would suffice to take a look at what is taking place in Lebanon, with the latest attacks on IDF soldiers that have been going on for some weeks now. Do you share this view?

[Answer] Well, there are differing evaluations, and this is legitimate. Prior to June 1982, we saw in Lebanon the danger that this terrorist organization, the PLO, was slowly becoming an army, a regular army relying and basing itself on certain territory and having an important public and civilian element behind it, and we saw it as a danger and decided to eliminate that danger. That danger was annihilated, and the PLO's military power no longer exists. Its political activity continues, primarily thanks to the fact that Israel, at some point in the course of the fighting, abstained from capturing all of Beirut, and that was because of its desire to avoid having many casualties among the Lebanese civilians who were involved in the war in spite of themselves.

[Question] It is a bit surprising, what you have been saying about the PLO's military power, because we have been witnessing an increase rather than a decrease in terrorist acts since the end of the war.

[Answer] I was talking about military power. I talked about the PLO's organizing in the manner of a regular army. Have we already forgotten the huge arms depots we discovered in Lebanon, the ammunition dumps, and the heavy arms caches that increased in size?

They no longer exist. Terrorist acts perpetrated by small squads that are currently being shielded by the Syrian Army do still exist.

[Question] And can this be prevented?

[Answer] I think that by removing the Syrian Army and the PLO forces from Lebanon this would be prevented.

[Question] But perhaps now, if there is already agreement [haskama] that the PLO's military power has decreased, this is the time for political reconciliation and is now not the time to signal to the Palestinians -- as they have been trying to do in various ways -- that the time has come to solve that problem by peaceful means?

[Answer] What problem, and who should we signal to, and who should we make a reconciliation with? After all, the organization called the PLO was established and exists in order to eliminate the State of Israel. What should we negotiate, the annihilation of the State of Israel? The stages of its liquidation?

[Question] Are you saying that even if 'Arafat announces publicly that he is prepared to make do with a Palestinian state alongside Israel, then too you would regard this as a tactic and an interim step on the road to annihilating the State of Israel?

[Answer] It is not that I would regard it as such; I know this is so. They themselves have been saying this in internal deliberations. A few years ago, and this is nothing new, they accepted the theory of stages, phases. They reached the conclusion that it is impossible to liquidate Israel by military means, and therefore it is necessary to make progress in a political way, in phases, with the first stage being the establishment of a Palestinian state in Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza which would become a base for attack in order to advance and promote this war toward its next stage.

[Question] In saying this, you are in fact reinforcing the statements made by the prime minister's advisers on terrorism, who said that in fact, we should expect another 100 years of terrorism?

[Answer] No, I would not say so. We are not talking here about 100 years of terrorism. It is always possible to have some actions that are insignificant. Today, for instance, inside Israel, despite the fact that here and there some terrorist action does take place, these incidents are actually insignificant because these actions do not stop us from conducting our life and affairs normally.

[Question] Mr Minister, according to all the reports, an Arab front is being consolidated, with U.S. initiative, to resume the peace process apparently on the basis of the Reagan plan. President Mubarak welcomed this plan and we are probably to expect an announcement by King Husayn on his joining the talks. What is Israel's position?

[Answer] I do not know whether or not a front is really organizing under a certain leadership the way you have portrayed it, yet there are rumors and various reports as well as estimations and assumptions. Israel's position is clear, well-known, and consistent: Israel is prepared at any time to welcome King Husayn's joining the negotiations for autonomy in Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza as part of the Camp David accords. If Husayn will work within this framework, we will sit at the table with him. This is Israel's position.

[Question] But Husayn will apparently not come to the negotiating table within the framework of the Camp David accords, and so the question is whether it is not the duty of the foreign minister, or the Cabinet's job as a whole, to look ahead -- possibly beyond these accords -- in order to still bring Husayn to the negotiating table?

[Answer] We are interested in conducting negotiations with any neighboring country, with each one of our neighbors, without preconditions. We have been saying this to them, signaling this to them by all methods and in all the ways. It is impossible to bring them by force, it is impossible to accept preconditions, and it is impossible to make promises without negotiations.

[Question] Mr Minister, when you say that if Husayn comes he should come within the framework of Camp David, is this not a precondition?

[Answer] No, because there is only one peace plan for the Middle East and that is the Camp David plan. We have paid dearly for it. We fulfilled everything we promised and carried out all our commitments in accordance with this agreement, and within this agreement, there is room for Husayn, for Jordan, to come and join the negotiations. This was agreed upon by us with As-Sadat, and this is what we agreed upon with the United States, which is why we expect this partner to join this project, the project of the Middle East peace.

[Question] Mr Minister, the Reagan administration as well as his aides and representatives in the State Department, issue nearly daily statements, and in fact support the leaders of the Arab countries, arguing that the settlements in Judaea and Samaria are an obstacle to peace and a roadblock to the resumption of the talks. Would it not have been worthwhile to declare a sort of moratorium, a brief time out, in order to let those who so argue see whether they are right or wrong?

[Answer] The argument on the settlements and Israel's right to settle in the areas of Eretz Yisra'el did not start yesterday; it has been going on for a long time. Our position is clear: The settlements do not harm peace, they do not conflict with the Camp David accords, they do not contradict the idea of the autonomy, and therefore, we see no reason whatsoever or any justification to stop the settlement of Israelis in tense territories. If we decide or declare a moratorium ... [interrupted]

[Question] A temporary freeze?

[Answer] Even a freeze, even for one moment, this freeze or this decision would be construed everywhere to mean that we are giving up our right to be present in those territories.

[Question] But we have already once before accepted a temporary freeze of 2 or 3 months?

[Answer] We did so once as part of the framework of peace negotiations, and it lasted for some time, until the agreement was signed. We did that once, and will not repeat it.

[Question] Mr Minister, the peace with Egypt is presently a cold peace. Some have even gone so far as to call it deep freeze. Is this reality the kind of reality you were afriad of, which is why you abstained on the Knesset vote on the Camp David accords?

[Answer] I would not take such credit for myself being capable of such foresight.

[Question] But you were afraid?

[Answer] I feared all sorts of things, but this is not the proper time or place to describe my fears. I say that a cold peace is still peace. It is not good that it is cold, but it is good that we have peace with Egypt. I hope this coolness is temporary and will pass with time.

[Question] What do you think will be able to thaw this freeze?

[Answer] First of all, an Egyptian decision, because Egypt's policy is what led to this freeze. I must add that it began even before the Peace for Galilee Operation. There were Egyptian inclinations to slow down and freeze the development of normal ties with Israel, and the Peace for Galilee Operation provided either the incentive or the pretext for deepening this freeze. But I assume, as we all know, that there is nothing internal in policy, and a new policy could also come about. I hope that the leaders of Egypt will one day decide that this is not the way to have relations with Israel and that it is necessary to go back to the course outlined in Camp David.

[Question] But, Mr Shamir, where is the Israeli initiative? For example, the disputed issue of Tabah is a painful one for Egypt. Why should Israel not come out with the initiative of discussing only this subject and leave it out of the overall subjects that need discussion. Perhaps through Tabah it would be possible to return to normal relations?

[Answer] Tabah is one of the subjects of contention between us and Egypt. Just as much as we argue that Tabah belongs to Israel, so they -- and they have the right to do so and have the license to do so -- argue that Tabah is part of Egyptian territory. There are solutions for this as part of the peace agreement. We are prepared to approach this, but it is one of the issues that are pending between us and Egypt. When they froze the entire framework of relations between us, the entire normalization process, in the fields of commerce, communication, cultural ties, agricultural ties -- everything -- I can see no reason why we should only discuss with them what interests them. And after all, what is Tabah? It is only several hundred square meters, after we have returned to Egypt tens of thousands of square kilometers. Why blow this issue up? What is the great significance of this matter? So they say: Not an inch. Well, so? So should Israel immediately accept any ideology or any theory of not an inch? How do people in Israel address themselves to such theories of not an inch? We will discuss Tabah with them, but as part of all the subjects we must discuss, which is something they have been refusing to do.

[Question] Mr Minister, in one of the recent interviews President Mubarak granted, he expressed the hope that after Israel withdraws from Lebanon, a certain thaw would occur, whereas today you hinted here that an IDF presence at the early warning stations could be possible. Would this not be another weapon in the hands of Egypt not to resume ties at an acceptable level?

[Answer] Not at all. We are talking about an agreement with Lebanon. After one is signed, part of which could be arrangement [sidur] and timetable for the IDF's withdrawal from Lebanon, then according to the statements by Mubarak and the other Egyptian leaders, they will have no pretext to justify freezing normalization with Israel.

[Question] Mr Shamir, even though we have not yet reached the end of the program and it is customary to ask personal questions at the end of such programs, I would still like to ask you one, because you have provoked me with your replies. My question is: It has been a tradition in Israel that the foreign ministers are the ones who instill an atmosphere of moderation in the country's foreign relations, an atmosphere of compromise. And yet, you are known to be a tough foreign minister, if you will pardon my language. Do your tough positions on political matters not constitute a conflict with the job you are holding within the government?

[Answer] First of all, I am not tough. I think that my views and positions are most moderate. But of course everything is relative, and the same holds for my political actions. However, if one talks about tradition, I know that not all of Israel's foreign ministers were known to be most moderate, or excelled in their moderation in comparison, say, with the political camp to which they belonged.

[Question] You must certainly mean the late Golda Me'ir?

[Answer] [Word indistinct].

[Question] Mr Shamir, to follow up on the subject of your views, in your ministry, among your employees there is -- shall we say -- discomfort in regard to the appointments to the Foreign Service, and the contention is prevalent that the ministry has been filled with partisan appointments. The question is how you react to this, and specifically, when will you appoint an ambassador to London and who will it be?

[Answer] It would be very difficult to say that I have been filling the ministry with political appointments seeing that throughout Israel's existence, the political appointments to the Foreign Ministry came almost totally, 100 percent, from one political camp. So what can I add or change? I should eliminate those few people who do not belong to this camp? I see absolutely no reason why I of all people should rule out such people, or people who have political views that are similar to mine, and strike their candidacy out, stopping them from serving in the Israeli Foreign Ministry.

[Question] Do you not think that the present employees can explain the government's positions?

[Answer] I have never said this. There are some excellent employees in the Foreign Ministry who fulfill their job faithfully and with talent. However, when I have the possibility of selecting from among various people, various candidates for appointments, I take various considerations into account and I of course do not rule out people who have positions different from those held by the majority of the Foreign Ministry workers, and I believe there is no reason for dismay over this. At the same time, regarding your second question, about the appointment for an ambassador to the Court of St James, this will be published in the next few days.

[Question] Mr Minister, do you intend to also appoint an Arab as a diplomatic representative in one of our representations, like the representative we had in the New York Consultate, former MK Zaydan 'Atshah?

[Answer] I have no objection to this. If there is a proper candidate, I will gladly do that.

[Question] That is to say that you are considering this favorably?

[Answer] Certainly.

[Question] We are quickly jumping from one subject to another, since we had prepared a long list of questions. Thus we now reach the topic of Africa. There were very noisy announcements when relations with Zaire were resumed. You talked about a breakthrough -- the same term that has been so often repeated in the last few weeks -- and yet there is a roaring silence from Africa. We have been hearing that there is a chance in the near future that relations with additional countries will be resumed. What is the truth?

[Answer] I would not say there is no chance for this. On the contrary, there is a chance and there are possibilities.

[Question] With whom?

[Answer] This silence does not prove that no action is being taken, or that no progress is being made. The silence will be broken once a statement comes from one of the countries, or from a few, that they are resuming their ties with Israel.

[Question] Who is next in line?

[Answer] I cannot say this. If I did, I might be found to be disillusioned by the very fact that I opened my mouth.

[Question] Mr Minister, are you satisfied with this continuous and fervent courting of Zaire? Hardly was the visit by the defense minister over when you left for there and not a day passed -- and I am not exaggerating -- and all of a sudden the defense minister with a large entourage are again in Zaire.

[Answer] There is no exaggeration. I think it is only natural that after we established relations with the first of the African countries that severed their relations with us, we are clearly interested in fostering these ties, strengthening and fortifying them as well as in showing all of Zaire's neighbors that this is the way Israel behaves toward the countries that resume their ties with it. I could mention similar cases in the past, noting countries that enjoyed at the time -- and I would not like to mention names at this point, because this too could possibly be harmful here and there -- anyway, we were very attentive to these countries, we fostered them greatly because they were the first -- in Africa and in Asia -- to establish ties with us.

[Question] Are you not disturbed by Israel's image that we are almost the exclusive arms suppliers to the first country to establish ties with us?

[Answer] No, that is not true. We are not becoming the sole arms suppliers. I was there, and said upon my return that a number of military delegations were there, training the Zairian Army and supplying it with means. This included France, Belgium, and the PRC; so Israel is not the first or the only one. It is only here in Israel that this is turned into a problem. This is the only place where this is being overblown. The same situation, Israeli rendering aid, exists in regard to many other countries where Israel gives what it can.

[Question] Mr Shamir, you are talking about overblowing the problem, and yet Israel's international image is one of a country serving the interests of nondemocratic countries, supplying them with arms. The question is whether it is not necessary for you, as foreign minister, to establish criteria by which to supply arms, because after all, we know our area, but do we know that these arms will not be used for a civil war within the country involved?

[Answer] There are criteria, and we consider each sale of arms and every case of supplying arms. Look, for example, not long ago the Costa Rican minister of public security visited here. Costa Rica is, I would say, without exaggerating, the most democratic country on the Latin American subcontinent.

[Question] Then why supply arms to countries that use them against their own people?

[Answer] Usually we do not provide arms for civil wars. That is usually the case, and anyway this is the rule. There may be here and there exceptions that result from various considerations, but I must tell you that we are not the only ones in this respect. Many countries of the world, perhaps not many, but a few, or many of the arms exporters and manufacturers, face the same problems and the same considerations and they are far less reserved than we.

[Question] There is also the question of profit and advantage, because it is very possible that a revolution could occur in a country, and then those who are not in power would come to power. These things have been known to happen?

[Answer] All of this is taken into consideration. The example of Nicaragua is well known, and everyone knows why at the time we helped Somoza, the dictator of Nicaragua, who at the time helped Israel a lot.

[Question] Yet, Mr Minister, the Foreign Ministry's Department for International Cooperation sees Israel as a country that provides aid in the fields of culture and agriculture or development. Yet the first step in Zaire is not that?

[Answer] It is that too. We are giving Zaire agricultural and technological aid as well. Unfortunately, we do not have the means the situation there would merit, but generally, Israel supplies aid to various countries in the world in two areas in which it excels: agriculture and security. We cannot give aid in other fields because we do not have the kind of money to provide financial or economic aid. We can provide knowhow, and that we have in agriculture and security, which is what we give.

[Question] Mr Foreign Minister, let us perhaps return to our region, to Israel. This week, the commission of inquiry into the Sabra and Shatila events began formulating its conclusions. What is your concept in principle in terms of the conclusions and the recommendations it will come up with. How do you as a senior Cabinet minister regard it: Should the Cabinet adopt all the conclusions or how should it handle this subject?

[Answer] I am not in the habit of saying a thing about this until the commission completes its work.

[Question] We did not mean, sir, the content of the conclusions, but the principle behind the conclusions. In principle, would you accept the idea that the Cabinet should adopt the conclusions of the commission of inquiry, whatever they are?

[Answer] It is very difficult to differentiate, in a discussion, between principles or other aspects. Therefore, I refrain from any discussion or expression on this matter.

[Question] Perhaps to make a question more pointed, take for example such a great person as the Honorable Justice Witkon who, a few days ago, published an article in which he says that it would be hardly conceivable that the Cabinet could avoid adopting the conclusions of the commission?

[Answer] Today Justice Witkon is a private citizen, and with all due respect, he can say and do whatever he wants to, but I think I am under obligation not to say a word.

[Question] Before the foreign minister rushes to his office to meet with Philip Habib, one question that must be asked in any meeting with you is the one concerning succession. Do you regard yourself as a candidate for the leadership of Herut, and do you see yourself as one who is to be Menahem Begin's heir one day?

[Answer] Why are you asking for negative answers? I have said a number of times, repeatedly, that I do not think -- which is also why I cannot say a thing -- about succession. The prime minister is acting, functioning, and no one talks about or is allowed to or can talk about succession or about heirs.

[Question] But people think about this?

[Answer] I do not.

[Question] Man entertains many thoughts.

[Question] Mr Minister, one more question. We were witnesses to a very stormy Peace Now demomstration in Efrat against the settlements. Do you think such a demonstration really harms the country and serves its enemies?

[Answer] No doubt such a demonstration causes damage. It shows hostile as well as friendly elements that the people of Israel are split and divided, and that there is a more or less large camp -- as depending on the inclination of those who describe such events -- united on such an important subject as settlement in the regions of Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza. In this case, it is known that in regard to Efrat and Gush 'Ezyon, there is nearly a national consensus in Israel that they should be settled. So why these demonstrations? Why this destructiveness? It merely encourages enemies and serves hostile elements, weakening our world standing. Yet we will overcome this.

[Question] Does this not show how strongly democratic the country is when there is room for such opinions and for two camps to coexist?

[Answer] It does not harm our democracy, but even in democracies one should not overdo it with such actions, which sometimes undermine the very nature of democracy.

[Golan] Mr Minister, we will not hold you here any longer, but only wish you a fruitful conversation with Ambassador Habib. Thank you for coming.

[Shamir] Thank you.

SHAMIR, HABIB DISCUSS LEBANON NEGOTIATIONS

TA191819 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] The foreign minister again met Philip Habib today, for the second time, and the two dignitaries continued to discuss the Israeli and U.S. stands in regard to the future of the arrangement [hesder] with Lebanon. Our political correspondent reports that the foreign minister again stressed that Israel demands security zones between it and Lebanon and is opposed to the presence of foreign forces in those zones. Warning stations operated by Israelis will be established in security zones for a limited and agreed period.

The talks between the Israeli and Lebanese delegations will be renewed tomorrow in Qiryat Shemona. Our correspondent assumes that in them it will be decided to establish another subcommittee to discuss subjects on the agenda. After the reports from the discussions are received, Philip Habib will again meet the foreign minister.

REPORTAGE ON ISRAEL-LEBANON NEGOTIATIONS

Lebanese Delegation Arrives

TA200621 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] A Lebanese delegation arrived in Qiryat Shemona last night bearing instructions to carry out the technical arrangements which would enable the acceleration of negotiations with Israel. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that the Lebanese officials discussed this matter upon their arrival with a team of Foreign Ministry and IDF personnel. It was proposed that the subcommittees hold their meetings on Monday and Tuesday in Khaldah, and on Wednesday and Thursday in Qiryat Shemona.

Negotiations Begin

NC200915 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] The first session of the eighth round of the Lebanese-Israeli-U.S. negotiations in Qiryat Shemona started at 1030 today. All subjects are put to discussion, the foremost of which is speeding up the withdrawal of foreign forces from Lebanon, along with discussing the termination of the state of war.

Reports today speak of a proposal that the Lebanese-Israeli subcommittees meet Monday and Tuesday in Khaldah and Wednesday and Thursday in Qiryat Shemona to speed up the negotiations.

Report on Start of Talks

NC200912 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0838 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Dispatch by the Lebanese Information Ministry delegation in Qiryat Shemona, Israel, in Arabic, French, and English; processed from English -- live]

[Text] At 1015 the pressmen and photographers were allowed in the conference room. The general atmosphere was relaxed among all three delegations and of course the pressmen, cameramen, and photographers. The head of the Lebanese delegation, Dr Antoine Fattal, declined to make any substantial statement and replaced it by smiles andjokes from here and there. All that Dr Fattal said, in answering the pressmen, is that he was hopeful. The delegation of the Ministry of Information learned that all items on the agenda will today be submitted all together to discussion. Dr Fattal also said that the Israeli side is expected to announce the names of its representatives in the subcommittees, adding that Lebanon has already formed three subcommittees to represent it.

Dr Fattal went on to say that the meetings are expected to multiply as from next week. We also learned that parallel to the discussion today on the termination of the state of war, which was item one on the agenda, Lebanon will also insist on discussing major items concerning our country, which is to speed up the withdrawal of all foreign troops from Lebanon and mainly the Israeli troops. We remind that the present meetings are held in Ederstein Library in Qiryat Shemona.

This is the official delegation of the Ministry of Information with you all the day and as long as the discussions will take from Qiryat Shemona.

Push for More Subcommittees

TA200846 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0835 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] The head of the Lebanese delegation to the talks with Israel, Antoine Fattal, said this morning that Philip Habib's presence in Israel must be used to create momentum in the talks. Replying to a question by our correspondent in the north, Menahem Horowitz, Fattal said that he had been instructed by the Lebanese Government to do everything possible to enable the establishment of at least three additional subcommittees today in order to accelerate the talks. The eighth round of talks between Israel and Lebanon opened this morning in Qiryat Shemona in a good atmosphere and nice weather.

3 Subcommittees Established

TA200954 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0947 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] The Israeli and Lebanese delegations in Qiryat Shemona have in the last hour decided to establish three subcommittees to discuss items on the agenda. One subcommittee will deal with the framework of mutual relations between Israel and Lebanon; the second will discuss the question of security arrangements; and the third will handle the issue of the withdrawal of foreign forces from Lebanon.

Our correspondent in the north Menahem Horowitz reports that the three subcommittees will begin operating next week, apparently both in Israel and Lebanon.

Replying to a question by our correspondent, Foreign Ministry spokesman Avi Pazner said that Lebanon's demand to change Major Haddad's status was not raised this morning. The first meeting of the plenary at Bet Edelstein in Giryat Shemona has just ended and the three delegations have adjourned for informal talks.

Closed Sessions Begin

NC201113 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1033 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Dispatch by Lebanese Information Ministry delegation from Qiryat Shemona, in Arabic, French, and English, processed from English -- live]

[Text] We have learned from authoritative sources that the three delegations met in a closed plenary session and started on a general study of the two following subjects: ending of hostile propaganda and liaison. It has been decided that the study of the two subjects will be referred to the subcommittees to examine them beginning next week.

Following a suggestion by the Lebanese delegation, it has also been agreed to form subcommittees to tackle the rest of the items on the agreed combined agenda. But until now, the Israeli side has not yet appointed the heads of the proposed subcommittees. Now the three delegations have started on a second closed session and at present the meeting is still in progress. This may come in blunt contradiction with what Mr Avi Pazner, the Israeli spokesman said, who this morning appeared before the press corps at 1135 to announce what follows: The plenary session which started at 1030 was adjourned an hour later at 1130 and the heads of delegations are now meeting informally.

Mr Pazner went on to say: It was convened that the three subcommitees would be formed. The first subcommittee would study the framework of mutual relations between the two countries and then he said the second would tackle the security arrangements. The third would examine the withdrawal of foreign troops from Lebanon. Mr Pazner went on to say that more details on when and where the commissions will meet will be given later today.

Eighth Round Ends

NC201337 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1326 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Dispatch by the Lebanese Information Ministry delegation from Qiryat Shemona, Israel, in Arabic, French, and English; processed from English -- live]

[Text] This is the official delegation of the Ministry of Information, at exactly 1520 today, Major 'Atif Tarabay, the official spokesman for the Lebanese delegation, came before the press and read the following communique: The delegations continued their discussion of the items on the agenda today. They discussed aspects of the framework of mutual relations, the program of complete withdrawals, and security arrangements. Good progress was made. Four new committees or subcommittees were created to enter into detailed examination of security arrangements, framework for mutual relations, program of complete withdrawals, and possible guarantees. The next plenary session will be held on Monday, 24 January, in Khaldah, Lebanon. These subcommittees will commence their work on Monday, 24 January, at Herzliyya.

Israel, Lebanon Issue Statement

TA201411 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] Israeli and Lebanese delegations in Qiryat Shemona have decided to set up yet another subcommittee that would discuss possible guarantees for the security arrangements [hesderey]. So far, five subcommittees have been established, and our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that they will begin operating next week in Khaldah and Herzliyya.

The head of the Lebanese delegation, Antoine Fattal, has turned down Israel's request to set up early warning stations in southern Lebanon, emphasizing that his country would not accept foreign forces' presence on its territory. It was decided that the matter would be discussed in working teams.

At the end of the talks, the delegations issued a statement expressing satisfaction with the progress [hitqadmut] made today.

HA'ARETZ ON U.S. PROPOSAL ON WARNING STATIONS

TA191212 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 19 Jan 83 pp 1, 2

[Report by Yehuda Litani]

[Excerpt] In talks held this week between the U.S. delegation headed by Philip Habib and representatives of Israel, the U.S. envoy proposed that U.S. early warning stations be established in southern Lebanon, instead of the Israeli proposal that Israeli stations be established there.

Habib raised this proposal in his meeting on Monday, 17 January. He repeated it yesterday in his meeting with the Israeli negotiating team headed by Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir.

Jerusalem sources said yesterday that although Israel would prefer the early warning stations to be manned by Israelis, in view of the previous experience of early warning stations in the Sinai manned by Americans, it appears that in this case, too, Israel will not oppose the U.S. proposal.

As Jerusalem political sources see it, the Americans regard the establishment of early warning stations manned by their personnel as having a double advantage: This proposal, in their opinion, will be willingly accepted by the Lebanese and consequently, some of Israeli's security problems on the northern border will be solved. Another advantage this will bring to the Americans is that the early warning stations will be able to serve not only such limited Middle East objectives as Syria, for instance, but will perhaps be able to serve in the future as monitoring stations for the southern border of the Soviet Union.

U.S. participants in yesterday's meeting, in addition to Habib, included Ambassadors Lewis and Draper, as well as the U.S. State Department's legal adviser (Alan Grechko), who is a Middle East expert. Paul Hare, head of the U.S. Embassy's political section, also attended. The Israeli delegation included Minister Shamir, the director general of his ministry, David Kimche, and members of the Israeli delegation to the Lebanon negotiations.

Report Denied

TA191215 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1130 GMt 19 Jan 83

[Text] Authoritative political sources have firmly denied reports that Israel leans toward agreeing that early warning stations, to be established in the security zones in Lebanon, be manned by U.S. technicians.

HA'ARETZ ON ISRAELI-U.S. DISAGREEMENT ON LEBANON

TA200934 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 20 Jan 83 pp 1, 2

[Report by Yehuda Litani]

[Text] Despite attempts to close the gaps in the positions of the United States and Israel on the issue of the Lebanon negotiations, there is still no agreement between the sides on the issues of normalization, the early warning stations, the stationing of the UNIFIL force in southern Lebanon, and the presence of Major Sa'd Haddad's personnel there.

In two meetings yesterday between the U.S. team, headed by mediator Philip Habib, and the Israeli team, headed by Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, Shamir insisted that the early warning stations be manned by the Israelis for an agreed and limited period of time. The Americans say the Lebanese will not agree to Israeli staffing of the stations, because this would violate Lebanon's sovereignty.

In yesterday's talks, Israel explained that it would oppose the stationing of a UNIFIL force in southern Lebanon. The Americans think UNIFIL should be stationed there, among other things, to safeguard the refugee camps.

Yesterday's talks centered primarily on the normalization issue. The Americans stressed the difficulties and the pressure on the Lebanese on this issue. In view of this, Habib proposed that Israel be satisfied with a comprehensive formulation of the normalization clause, without going into detail. Israel disagrees with this position and wants the various normalization clauses to be detailed.

Jerusalem political sources said yesterday that there is [word apparently dropped in text] in Jerusalem that it is actually the Americans who put pressure on Amin al-Jumayyil not to accept Israel's demands on the issues of normalization and security arrangements. These sources see confirmation of this in reports from Washington yesterday on this issue, in which the Americans admit the existence of such pressure.

Yesterday's talks concentrated more on the normalization issue and less on the security arrangements because the defense minister was not present at the talks yesterday due to his Zaire trip. While Israel is in favor of granting a special status in southern Lebanon to Haddad's forces, the Americans are opposed to granting such a status and would like the force to be disbanded and incorporated into the Lebanese Army. Problems were also discovered in Israel's demands to maintain joint patrols with the Lebanese Army in the area of southern Lebanon.

Political sources in Jerusalem said yesterday that although the foreign minister had clearly and unequivocally explained Israel's opposition to U.S. manning of the early warning stations, the Lebanese might vigorously oppose this; both sides might then be able to reach a compromise solution on this matter. Those sources said that it was important to Israel for Israelis, not Americans, to man the stations.

On the issue of the early warning stations, Habib said yesterday that in his opinion, the Lebanese would under no circumstances accept Israel's position, because in their talks with U.S. elements, they were underscoring their strong opposition to this Israeli demand.

Habib will remain in Jerusalem until the end of the week and will hold further talks with the foreign minister tomorrow, Friday, 21 January, at the end of the talks in Qiryat Shemona.

In today's talks in Qiryat Shemona, Jerusalem sources expect additional subcommittees to be established. In addition to ending the state of war, other issues will also be discussed.

Political sources in Jerusalem said yesterday that even before the beginning of Habib's talks with Israeli elements, the Americans had prepared their own document that includes all the points in the negotiations that, as they see it, will be accepted by the Lebanese. This is a document that sometimes reduces Israel's demands drastically, primarily on the issues of normalization and security arrangements. The document has not been submitted to the Israelis, but is used by the Americans in their contacts with Israel.

REPORT ON HABIB MISSION, SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS

TA190746 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 19 Jan 83 p 1

[Report by diplomatic correspondent David Landau]

[Text] U.S. special envoy Philip Habib held lengthy talks yesterday with Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir in determined pursuit of his efforts to speed up the negotiations between Israel and Lebanon.

Habib hopes to hold several more such sessions with Shamir, and with Defence Minister Ari'el Sharon when he returns from Zaire, in the days ahead -- and to be able to go to Beirut with the basic components of an agreement.

U.S. sources have stressed that Habib is thinking in terms of days rather than weeks to achieve his goal. But a well-placed Israeli source, speaking after yesterday's intensive and detailed session, dismissed this. "We also hope Habib's effort will speed up the negotiations with Lebanon," the source said. "But it's not a matter of hocus-pocus; there's no magic here."

It was apparent from several sources that there was no atmosphere of overt pressure at the Habib-Shamir session yesterday. Nevertheless, the U.S. envoy has made the Israeli side aware of the growing frustration and impatience that pervades Washington over the crisis in Lebanon.

Habib's purpose is to conduct talks, first in Jerusalem and later in Beirut, on essentially the same issues that are under discussion at Khaldah and Qiryat Shemona -- but at a higher policy-making level. He believes that if he can reach a basic understanding with the two senior Israeli ministers he will be able to "sell" the deal to the Lebanese.

On security arrangements, major differences between Israel and the U.S. seem to remain unbridged. The U.S. still bridles at Israel's demand for IDF-manned listening posts on Lebanese soil after the withdrawal.

Reports indicate that Habib may propose that U.S. troops establish and maintain such listening posts in Lebanon.

Similarly, Washington and Jerusalem do not see eye-to-eye over Israel's insistence that UNIFIL leave the envisaged 40-km security zone and that Maj. Sa'd Haddad's militia play a central role in policing.

Much of yesterday's session was taken up by a meticulous review of formulations proposed by the parties in reference to the detailed issues of mutual relations and security arrangements.

Informed sources said Habib's concern is to evolve an accord that would be "acceptable, practical and lasting." In effect, this sometimes means that during the talks with Israel the U.S. envoy adopts positions or rejects positions on the strength of what he believes could be acceptable in Beirut.

Thus, yesterday he baulked at Israel's idea that there would be official government missions stationed in Beirut and Jerusalem (or Tel Aviv) after the withdrawal. Habib apparently has adopted the attitude that this is expecting too much of the Lebanese, given their delicate position within the Arab world.

KHALIL AL-WAZIR GIVEN JORDANIAN CITIZENSHIP

TA200541 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] Our correspondent Pinhas 'Inbari has learned that Yasir 'Arafat's deputy, Abu Jihad [Khalid al-Wazir], has been issued a Jordanian passport and has become a Jordanian citizen. After the evacuation of the PLO from Beirut, Abu Jihad made his permanent residence in Amman. Abu Jihad is the head of the PLO's military branch and is the man in charge of political affairs in the territories. Abu Jihad and Hani al-Hasan are the most senior PLO representatives in Jordan.

REPORT ON U.S. ATTITUDE TOWARD SYRIAN MISSILES

TA192001 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 19 Jan 83 p 5

[Report from Washington by Rafa'el Mann]

[Excerpt] The U.S. concern over the stationing of the missiles in Syria, arises for a number of reasons:

First, Washington fears that if the missiles are used, and they might be very efficient especially against slow planes such as the Hawkeye, the aerial surveillance plane which played a central role in the dogfights over Lebanon, Israel will act against the missiles. Such a deterioration in the situation might hamper the efforts to achieve an agreement in Lebanon and further damage the Reagan peace initiative in the Middle East.

Second, the Americans are worried about the deepening, direct Soviet involvement in Syria: It is estimated the SAM-5 batteries will require the presence of about 1,200 Soviet experts. It is still not clear whether the stationing of the missiles is the last word, or whether more Soviet military people will come, among them fighter pilots to ensure an aerial defense for the missiles.

Third, Experts believe that stationing the missiles will enhance Syria's self-confidence and might cause it to oppose a Lebanese arrangement, to be achieved under U.S. aegis. There are those in Washington who already complain about "contradictory signals" coming out of Damascus in regard to Syrian intentions about Lebanon. It is not by chance, they explain in Washington, that envoy Philip Habib refrained, at least until the middle of the week, from visiting the Syrian capital.

The Americans fear that stationing the Soviet missiles might serve the Syrian attempts to damage the chances of the Reagan plan. Administration officials and foreign diplomats in Washington this week expressed the fear that through the missiles Moscow is attempting to get a foothold in the peace process in the area. In this way, it tries to upset U.S. efforts which included the estimate that the crisis in Lebanon enhanced its status as the only element able to achieve an arrangement in the area.

Last year, at the end of the 'Brezhnev era," Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam visited the White House twice. Since then, the picture has changed: The signals received in Washington from Wyria create the impression that stationing the missiles and the change of leadership in the Kremlin enhanced the Soviet credibility in the eyes of the Syrians. The first negative result, in the form of a more rigid Al-Asad stand in the negotiations on Lebanon, might be only the first of many spokes struck in the U.S. diplomatic wheels.

EGYPTIANS INTRODUCE TRACTOR TO TABAH AREA

TA201303 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1256 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] Military sources told our correspondent 'Arad Nir a few minutes ago in regard to Tabah, that this morning the Egyptians brought in one tractor to the demilitarized zone there. In the course of that action, part of the fence there was destroyed and after a while, the Egyptian tractor was removed. The liaison unit headed by Brigadier General Dov Si'on has issued a complaint about this to the Egyptian authorities.

Contacts Being Held

TA201326 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1320 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] Our correspondent Uri Paz spoke a few minutes ago with Brigadier General Dov Si'on, who heads the joint Israel-Egypt Military Committee. Do you have new information about the events in Tabah, Uri?

[Paz -- live] Israel is investigating if the destruction of the border fence in Tabah is a local mistake, or an order from above from the Egyptian Government. At this very moment, contacts are being held between the two sides -- the Israeli and Egyptian liaison officers -- to try to reach a settlement [hesder]. The tractors are still on the site and are leveling the ground for the construction of cabins and other buildings. A few minutes ago, I spoke to Brig Gen Dov Si'on, who stressed the gravity of the incident, which, he said, constitutes a violation of the agreement between Israel and Egypt regarding the border at Tabah.

Israel Files Complaint

TA201408 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] The Israeli representative to the joint Israeli-Egyptian Military Committee, Brigader General Dov Si'on, has filed a complaint on the Egyptian penetration into the demilitarized zone. He told our correspondent Eytan Rabin that the incursion constitutes a violation of the peace agreement, and that the Egyptians were asked to stop the work at once.

Israel is currently looking into the possibility that this might be a new Egyptian policy, or that this might have been an error by the regional commanders.

Our correspondent reports that the Egyptians have actually stopped work in the demilitarized area.

Earlier, it was reported that last night the Egyptians tore down the border fence in Tabah and entered the demilitarized zone adjacent to the Israel-controlled area. They introduced construction material into the area in order to erect a cabin.

APS CARRIES MUGAGE STATEMENT ON OAU, OTHER ISSUES

LD191350 Algiers APS in English 1005 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] Algiers, 19/1/83 (APS) -- Zimbabwe Prime Minister Robert Mugabe sees it necessary to examine the inequitable distribution of the world's economic resources with the urgency they deserve.

The economic situation in Africa continues to worsen in large part due to external pressure, he also said in an interview to APS at the eve of his visit to Algeria starting today.

Evoking international institutions he said there is a need to reorient international economic relations to the benefit of all member countries of the international community though it is evident that the concept of a new international economic order has not been equally accepted, Mr Mugabe added. Some nations, those of the north, are reluctant to find a more equitable way to distribute world's wealth. [sentence as received] The deteriorating global economic position has regretably been used by these countries as an exercise to apply protectionist measures against exports from developing countries.

As for monetary institutions Prime Minister Mugabe advocates necessity of restructuring them in their reforming in a way that they reflect contemporary realities.

Developing countries must be allowed to participate more in these bodies. We believe he said that the future of all nations of the world is closely interlinked. Zimbabwe hopes that the dialogue between the North and the South did not end with Cancun conference. It is our belief and desire that fundamental changes in the international economic system are made in order to create a new socio-economic order that can foster a mutually beneficial relationship of interdependence Mr Mugabe indicated.

As for relations between the two countries Mr Mugabe said Algeria and Zimbabwe are strongly committed to the Organisation of African Unity and its Charter.

Our organisation he said has recently experienced major setbacks in its attempts to grapple with some of the pressing problems which confront us today. The very existence of the O.A.U. is seriously threatened by unnecessary forces of division. The divisions that have manifest themselves recently are to a large extent, the result of manipulation of some member states by external forces which are bent against the unity and progress of the OAU. Regrettably, there are those within our ranks who have seen it fit to dance to the tune of these foreign powers at the expense of principles.

It is therefore distrubing to discover that a few unprincipled member states whose revolutionary conscience has gone sour should be allowed to destroy one of our major instruments of liberation, Mr Mugabe also stated.

It is my firm hope that the forces of progress within the OAU will save the organisation from collapse. Zimbabwe Government will do everything within its power to ensure that the organisation redoubles its efforts for both the economic and political advancement of our continent.

ALGERIA

MAURITANIA'S MINNIH DEPARTS AFTER MEETING

LD192215 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] The visit to Algeria is within the context of strengthening bilateral relations and [word indistinc] the numerous links uniting Algeria and Mauritania.

That was the statement made by Mr Ould Minnih, Mauritanian minister of foreign affairs, on his departure from Algiers this afternoon.

During his stay the head of Mauritanian diplomacy was received by President Chadli Bendjedid, to whom he gave a message from Mauritanian head of state Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala.

LIBYA

JANA ATTACKS HABIB ROLE IN MIDDLE EAST

LD191018 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0700 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Tripoli, 19 Jan (JANA) -- The stray waif Philip Habib adopts the posture of the utmost hostility and hatred for the Arabs. His movements and meetings reflect his behavior which rejects Arab rights and which blatantly favors the Zionist enemy.

Despite his Arab origin he is vexed by the Arabs and has turned his face away from them; moreover he has been intent on offending them and insulting their attitudes. He prefers to be a Zionist at heart and an American hypocrite, flatterer, and plotter.

His statements and advice to the Zionists have shown his true nature as the best friend of our enemies. He marches to the (?orders) of his Zionist friends and carries out their plans in the manner they desire and prefer. In full view of us he closes his eyes to all Arab facts and disregards the legitimacy of our causes and even treads on the corpses of our martyrs in Sabra, Shatila, Khaldah, and Al-Khalisah to achieve the Zionists' aims.

He does not serve peace and the causes of peace as the claim, but he is paving the way to war and aggression. A look at the dates of his visits to the region is enough to tell us how they were precisely timed with the Zionist enemy's aggressions, invasions, and massacres.

What we must be convinced of, which also commits us to respond, is that this stray waif, adopted by Reagan and the terrorist Begin, is plotting against us and denying our rights.

JALLUD, HABASH, HAWATIMAH ADDRESS RALLY

LD141448 Tripoli JANA in English 0823 GMT 14 Jan 83

[Text] Tripoli, Rabi Awal 30, Jan 14, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY -- The student masses yesterday celebrated the 19th anniversary of the 13-14 Jan 1964 student uprising against the royalist police state, which was struck down with one blow by the Libyan Arab people in the Great 1st Sept 1969 Revolution.

The students gathered in Tripoli yesterday afternoon and staged a big march and rally in commemoration of this historic uprising and of its martyrs who were treacherously killed by the forces of repression.

They assembled near the people's palace where they were greeted by Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Jallud and Brigadier Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, commander-in-chief of the armed forces. Staff Major Jallud delivered a speech marking the anniversary and acclaiming the students' struggle against the defunct regime and their brave confrontation with its forces of repression.

He pointed out that the commemoration of the student uprising of January 13 and 14 of 1964 today coincide with the meeting here of the leaders of the rejectionist Palestinian organizations. This, he said, will reinforce their stand and help them to continue carrying the banner of a liberated Palestine, from the River Jordan to the Mediterranean Sea.

Staff Major Jallud said: "The deafening cries for liberation, armed struggle and rejection of capitulatory settlements spur the Palestinian fighter and the resistance leaders materially and morally.

"The students' mass cry in Libya roars for the armed struggle as they now live in a free jamahiri (mass) society which alone enables them to freely express themselves."

He added: "The free student masses in this jamahiri society, the society of people's congresses and committees, are themselves capable of going to the field to make their rejection heard. The roaring cry of the student masses in the Jamahiriyah is only to be expected since man has become free here and possesses authority, wealth and arms."

Staff Major Jallud noted that the student masses that were treacherously fired at in 1966 by the fascist reactionary regime are today freely training in the use of the most advanced arms.

He continued: "If you have been liberated by the student revolution led by the pupil Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi in the fifties in the city of the first spark, and by the student uprising of 1964, then you must be proud to be the only students in the Arab homeland and the only young men who are consolidating a free and socialist society and fighting for unity.

"The road of struggle is long and arduous in front of you and involves liberating the Arab will from the gulf to the ocean. If you have been liberated your brothers are still in prisons in the reactionary states. You have brothers in Moroccan prisons simply because they reject capitulation and reaction."

Staff Major Jallud commented also on how the students uprising of 1964 paved the way for the revolution and the setting up of people's authority.

Staff Major Jallud said: "The student youth of Jamahiriyah are training on arms and the most modern weapons, planes, tanks and missiles. Thus, they are consolidating the society of freedom, where authority, wealth and weapons are possessed by the people. They are bringing nearer the day of liberating Palestine from the River Jordan to the Mediterranean Sea, and the day of unity.

"These students are not raising empty slogans but are practising, by their sweat and blood, daily struggles for consolidating the people's mastery of authority, the authority of People's Congresses and Committees. They are daily practising revolution and mass work, which is daily growing."

He stressed: "Marking this uprising should become an occasion for students to be loyal to revolutionary nationalist programme, exert efforts to train on arms, increase production and build a moral, economic and military force."

He urged them to work harder for greater production and realization of the revolutionary nationalist programme to build a force affirming faith in all the revolutionary dicta, slogans and programmes.

He added: "This magnificent rally is being held today in this square, which was a monopoly for the king and his clique while today it has become a popular square for revolutionary action and demonstrations." He called on the students to consolidate people's power and the masses' era as a pledge of loyalty to the martyrs who fell in 1964 by the bullets of reaction, fascism and dictatorship.

He added, "Currently we are noting that Arab political will is being defeated. It is even more grave that it is [word indistinct] to defeat Arab human will. However, the most potent response is that this generation of revolution, renewal, unity and masses' era, is the generation most determined to hold on to the rifle."

He went on: "How wonderful it is to see brigades and divisions of students carrying logistical manoeuvres using tanks and missiles. How wonderful it is to see our students in Tripoli and Benghazi unloading goods to increase production. We in the revolutionary leadership find in the students' stands the best backing for us to continue the struggle. Our students have always been loyal to revolutionary ethics."

He added: "The generation of rejection should be incited to destroy all false slogans and efforts to deceive the masses."

He concluded by saying: "Your thundering voice today is heard by the Arab students and masses from the Atlantic to the Gulf. They will fight against the Arab nation's enemies. Let us give our pledge here today to remain loyal to the revolutionary nationalist programme, which will stop the Zionist death wagon being propelled by American energy."

Dr George Habash, the secretary general of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (P.F.L.P.), addressed the student march saying that the Zionist-imperialist-reactionary attack has been viciously escalated against the Arab nation and all the national, progressive and revolutionary elements.

"Most of the Arab rulers have surrendered and therefore the revolutionary forces of the Arab nation should stand up to the imperialist schemes and confront the enemies with serious fighting and comprehensive mass mobilization and not just words."

He added that the history of the Arab nation is full of challenges and that the Jamahiriyah is the vanguard of the Arab struggle against Zionism, imperialism and Arab reaction.

Mr Nayif Hawatimah, the secretary general of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (D.F.L.P.), too, greeted the Jamahiriyah students on this anniversary saying that the 1964 student uprising inspired the Libyan Arab people for the revolution and today they are carrying the arms defending the Arab nation's causes especially the Palestinian cause. He added that the Libyan people who are carrying arms in one hand and working with the other, will not be defeated and that all hostile attempts will be foiled as a result of their determination and strong will to build socialism and achieve unity.

Mr Hawatimah has also praised the struggle of the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples and their heroic resistance against the invading Zionist force. He said that the Palestinian and Lebanese fighters waged the most honourable and heroic offensive against the Zionist forces in Lebanon while most of the Arab regimes stood idle and impotent towards the invasion.

He added: "We have great trust in the Jamahiriyah students and the Great al-Fatih Revolution, who are carrying arms, to always stand on the side of the Palestinian people."

MAURITANIA

INA REPORTS LIBYAN-BACKED COUP ATTEMPT

JN201234 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1150 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] Paris, 20 Jan (INA) -- Highly placed sources have told the INA correspondent here that an attempt to topple Mauritanian President Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala was perpetrated by Libya last week. The sources added that the Mauritanian authorities managed to arrest the principal motivator of the coup, a discharged army officer.

The sources said that two officers, (Ould ibn Jara), the brother of the former prime minister, and ('Abd ar-Rahman ibn Sukkar), were arrested carrying light weapons and sums of money. Also, deputy commander in chief of the army (Maollay Boukhris) has been placed under house arrest on instructions by President Haydala on charges of being affiliated with the coup attempt.

The same sources affirmed that the Libyan regime had planned the coup attempt and financed an organization called "the free officers organization" to carry out this operation.

The sources expect that Mauritania will take measures against Al-Qadhdhafi's regime; the nature of these measures has not yet been disclosed. The Mauritanian authorities have tightened security around the Libyan Embassy in the capital.

ARMY BASE SHELLED BY SUSPECTED MOROCCAN BOATS

NC191916 Paris AFP in English 1841 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] Dakar, Jan 19 (AFP) -- The Mauritanian military base of La Guera, situated at the southern tip of neighbouring Western Sahara, was today shelled by naval vessels suspected of being Moroccan, informed sources said here today.

The Mauritanian base retaliated and there was a brief exchange of fire, the sources said. No casualties were reported.

According to unconfirmed information, the shelling was reportedly accompanied by a landing attempt on a small scale.

Security measures were taken along the Mauritanian coastline 500 kms (350 miles) south to Nouakchott, the capital, but the measures in the capital were not of major importance and did not affect daily activities.

The La Guera base, which was previously attached to Tiris el Ghabia (formerly Rio de Oro under Spanish rule) has been occupied by Mauritania since 1976, when Morocco and Mauritania shared out the former Spanish Sahara.

Mauritania withdrew from Tiris el Ghabia in 1978 following an agreement ending its war with Polisario guerrillas, but retained control of La Guera, fearing its occupation by either Morocco or the Polisario Front, which continued to fight over the Saharan territory.

More on Shelling

NC191956 Paris AFP in English 1950 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] Dakar, Jan 19 (AFP) -- La Guera is situated two kms (one mile) from Nouadhibou, which has always been in Mauritanian territory and has the rail terminal from where iron ore is shipped to the sea. Nouadhibou also contains large port and industrial installations and is Mauritania's main economic centre.

Mauritania consideres that its presence in La Guera is a guarantee of its neutrality in the Western Sahara conflict.

(In another development, Mauritanian Foreign Minister Ahmed Ould Minwih today met with Polisario leader Mohamed Abdelaziz with a message from Mauritania President Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala on "bilateral relations and the regional situation," the Saharan Information Ministry announced in Algiers.)

LEBANESE PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION DEPARTS

AB191610 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 1430 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Excerpt] The Lebanese Parliamentary delegation, which arrived in Nouachott last Sunday, left the capital yesterday afternoon after having been received by Lieutenant Colonel Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala, president of the Military Committee for National Salvation and head of state. The three-man delegation, which was led by Rashid as-Sulh, a former prime minister, delivered a message from President Amin al-Jumayyil to Lt Col Mohamed Khouna Old Haydala.

At the end of this short stay during which the delegation visited the major urban centers, Rashid as-Sulh thanked Mauritania and its president, government, and people for the very warm reception accorded his delegation and the efforts they are making to ensure Lebanon's progress toward independence, sovereignty, and unity.

TUNISIA

ALGERIAN INTERIOR MINISTER ARRIVES 17 JANUARY

LD172348 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 17 Jan 83

[Excerpts] Brother M'hamed Hadj Yala, member of the Political Bureau and minister of the interior, arrived in Tunis at noon today on a 4-day visit.

Hadj Yala's visit to Tunis, which comes following the Tunisian interior minister's visit to Algeria last December, is aimed at reviewing various bilateral relations. A working session will be held this evening at the Tunisian Ministry of the Interior.

APS Reports Activities

LD191324 Algiers APS in English 1022 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] Tunis, 19/1/83 (APS) -- Mr M'hamed Hadj Yala, FLN party Politburo member, interior minister went to the governorate of SFAX with Mr Driss Guiga, Politburo member of the Destourian Socialist Party (PSD), minister of interior, and Mr Abdelghani Akbi, CC member, Algerian ambassador to Tunisia.

On the second day of his visit in Tunisia, Mr Yala was to attend to festivities marking 31th anniversary of the launching of the Tunisian people's struggle for its national independence.

The 18 January 1952 indicates, indeed, a decisive date in the history of the Tunisian national movement under the leadership of President Bourguiba whose arrest by the French colonialism on that day represents the starting point of a popular revolt which ended with Tunisia's independence.

On this occasion, the Tunisian premier Mr Mohamed Mzali presided an important popular meeting in the presence of members of the government, the party and the Algerian delegation.

Taking the opportunity of the presence of Mr Yala to this meeting, the Tunisian premier was to express his feelings of pride before the Algerian revolution, its leadership and the Algerian people which was to reach the national independence at the end of seven years of sacrifices and a merciless struggle.

"The presence among us, in this memorable day, of Mr Hadj Yala expresses the sermon of faithfulness taken before Algerian and Tunisian martyrs killed in action for a noble cause," he notably pointed out.

"This sermon also expresses, he added, our two countries and our two peoples determination to carry on a common action and to promote a fruitful cooperation by launching the bases for the achievmeent of the Arab maghreb.

ES-SEBSI ON RELATIONS WITH EGYPT, LIBYA

PM191053 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 15 Jan 83 p 3

[Interview with Tunisian Foreign Minister Beji Caid es-Sebsi by 'Amr Hafiz in Riyadh -- date not given]

[Excerpt] [Question] Are there contacts at present for the restoration of Egyptian-Tunisian relations?

[Answer] Not at present, but I want to point out that nobody denies Egypt's position among the Arabs nor its weight as far as manpower, culture and military standing are concerned. We all regret the present state of relations between Egypt and the Arab states. We all realize that Egypt's exit from the Arab ranks was a bad thing and that it upset the balance of power between us and the Israeli enemy. Egypt's exclusion from the Arab ranks was a loss to us. I believe that the Egyptian people are genuine Arab people who would like nothing more than to return to the Arab fold. The fact remains that Egypt's exit was due to known reasons, circumstances and attitudes. All these factors prompted the Baghdad Arab summit conference to adopt a certain stand toward it and to freeze its membership in the Arab League. I believe that the reasons are still valid and this is why it is difficult to think that [Egypt's] return is possible at present. I believe that the right atmosphere should be promoted and that the return should be in accordance with a collective decision, since the first decision was made at the summit. We all hope for Egypt's return and for the elimination of these reasons.

I believe that Egypt's return to the Arab fold would be an added strength and gain for Egypt and the Arab nation. This matter was discussed at the latest Fes summit conference. Views were exchanged but no decision was made.

[Question] There has been much talk about political tension and antiregime political organizations in Tunisia. What is the truth and what is Tunisia's official position?

[Answer] This is not true. Tunisia, like any other state or nation, has for many years been trying to win the battle of dignity and endeavoring to end backwardness, achieve progress and prosperity, and build a modern state, constitutional institutions, and a sound national economy. Naturally, all this produces some minor negative aspects and also makes some friends and quasi-friends jealous in a way. Furthermore, Tunisia does not live in isolation from the world.

Some of the negative trends from which the world is suffering have reached us, but we have dealt with them firmly and clearly. Despite its few negative aspects, Tunisia is considered to have fewer such negative aspects than any other country. There is nothing to be afraid of in Tunisia, but because everything is clear and because everything is open to discussion in the media and our press is free -- we have the official press and the opposition press -- everything comes to light. Also, the foreign media keep watch and Israel is like salt in food -- never absent. What I want to emphasize is that the situation in Tunisia is sound.

[Question] What is the latest on Tunisian-Libyan relations?

[Answer] Libya is a neighboring country. The Prophet, may God's peace and blessing be upon Him, preached good neighborliness. Whatever the differences -- even if they reach the point of a clash -- we always try to ease them and we always resort to dialogue to create the right atmosphere for coexistence in the area. There is every reason for the Tunisian and Libyan people to be close. They have a common past, language, religion, and history and there are the elements of cooperation, solidarity, and complementation. We believe that all the states of the greater Arab Maghred have a common future. This is why there is an open dialogue between Tunisia and Libya. Our direction is known and we have agreed on cooperation in many economic, cultural, and informational fields. There is a sizable Tunisian community in Libya. There are exchanges of visits. We are determined to ensure the success and implementation of what has been agreed. This does not mean that no issues are still pending and unresolved. As far as Tunisia is concerned, we have the political determination to settle these issues through dialogue, and I believe that this is in the interests of Libya as well as Tunisia. Our hands are always extended and our hearts are always open to everything that brings the two fraternal peoples closer together. We, however, deal and interact with reality. There have been difficulties and there may be other difficulties. I hope that we have enough commonsense to facilitate matters, not complicate them. Libyan and Tunisian officials ahve recently exchanged visits. There is a dialogue but it lacks daily commitment.

ETHIOPIA

1-YEAR COOPERATION PROTOCOL SIGNED WITH PDRY

EA191916 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Excerpt] Socialist Ethiopia and the PDRY this afternoon signed a 1-year general protocol agreement to further strengthen their cooperation in the economic, scientific, technical, and trade fields. The agreement was signed at the meeting hall of the Ministry of Foreign Trade. On the Ethiopian side the general protocol agreement was signed by Comrade Wollie Chekol, minister of foreign trade, while Comrade Ahmad 'Ubayd al-Fadli, PDRY minister of trade and supply, signed on behalf of his country.

The agreement was signed following a 1-week meeting of the third economic, scientific, technical, cooperation, and trade joint commission of the two countries. According to the protocol agreement, Ethiopia will supply the PDRY with the agricultural produce it requires. According to the protocol agreement, the two friendly countries will exchange experts and experiences to develop cooperation in the tourism, transport, communications, culture, scientific cooperation, and trade fields and train professionals in various sectors.

Speaking during the ceremony, Comrade Wollie Chekol said that the results of the joint commission were fruitful, adding that socialist Ethiopia would make unreserved efforts to implement the agreement.

For his part, Comrade Ahmad 'Ubayo al-Fadli said that the third joint commission meeting, which was held in a spirit of brotherhood and good understanding, had properly surveyed the various joint projects between the two countries, adding that Democratic Yemen would make efforts for their implementation.

CLANDESTINE REPORTS 17 JAN EPLF MILITARY VICTORY

EA191929 (Clandestine) Voice of the Broad Masses of Eritrea in Tigrinya 1500 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] Mereta Keih -- The heroic zonal militiamen of the EPLF have ambushed an enemy force which was moving from [name indistinct] to Mereta Keih. In the engagement, which took place the day before yesterday, on 17 January, (?our fighters) killed 14 soldiers and wounded 23 others. The remainder of the enemy force was chased back to (?Teraemni).

Meanwhile, a landmine planted by our comrades in the Adi Geda vicinity destroyed an enemy truck. In (Dekemhare), two soldiers were killed and three others were wounded in a shootout between Dergue soldiers.

SOMALIA

SIAD BARRE ON READINESS TO TALK WITH ETHIOPIA

EA191928 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 0330 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Excerpts] The president of the Somali Democratic Republic, Mohamed Siad Barre, last night officially closed the second congress of Somali cooperative movements at the national theater in Mogadishu.

In an important speech on the occasion, the president congratulated the second congress of Somali cooperative movements and all the various cooperative unions throughout the country.

Speaking on the harmfulness of qat [narcotic], alcoholic drinks, and other intoxicants, the president said that these things are injurious to the health, culture, and general development of society as well as to the national economy. He therefore urged participants at the congress and the Somali community as a whole to exert strong pressure against the use of these drugs.

Addressing the problems of the black market, Challe Siad said that there are elements who want to suck the blood from the nation. It is therefore imperative to wage a merciless war on them.

On the current situation in the country, the president said that Black colonialist Abyssinia and its allies have on many occasions launched naked and provocative aggression on certain parts of Somali territory which, however, were bravely repulsed by the Somali Armed Forces supported by the general public.

The enemy suffered a severe, humiliating, and crushing defeat said Challe Siad, the president of the Somali Democratic Republic. Siad added that it is the sacred dutiy of all Somalis wherever they may be to defend the sovereignty and nationhood of the country with their property and lives in order to check and put an end to the naked and provocative aggression unleashed upon Somalia by the Black Abyssinian colonizers and their allies.

Challe Siad said that, as had already been stated, Somali once again declares its readiness to hold talks with the Government of Ethiopia at any time and place in order to find a lasting and just solution to the crisis in the Horn of Africa.

Speaking on Somali foreign policy, the president said that, as stated in the first paper of the Somali revolution and the Somali Constitution, Somalia respects and welcomes the friendship of any government that does not challenge the honor, dignity, and aspiration of the Somali nation.

UGANDA

VICE PRESIDENT RETURNS FROM EUROPEAN TRIP

EA191252 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] Vice President Paulo Muwanga has returned home after a 1-week private visit to West Germany and Belgium. While there Mr Muwanga visited Uganda's missions in Bonn and Brussels.

On arrival at Entebbe International Airport this morning, the vice president was welcomed by the prime minister, Mr Otema Alimadi; several Cabinet ministers; the chief of defense forces, Major General Tito Okello; the chief of staff, Brigadier David Oyite Ojok; and commanding officers of various battalions and units.

DELEGATION TO ATTEND SUDANESE PARTY CONGRESS

LD191840 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] President Milton Obote has received a special message from President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri of the Sudan inviting a Uganda People's Congress [UPC] delegation to attend the fourth national congress of the Sudanese Socialist Union next month. The message was delivered to the president by the Sudanese roving ambassador, Mr (Umar Yasin), in Kampala today.

President Obote thanked President Numayri for the invitation and stated that the UPC will be represented at the congress.

OBOTE ADDRESSES COMMANDERS ON CURRENT SITUATION

EA192129 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] President Obote has hailed the great strides Ugandans and the security forces have made in correcting the damage of the last 10 years, and reiterated that there is an open road to a better future. The president also paid tribute to the farmers who have resolved to conquer poverty by engaging in increased production of both food and cash crops. Dr Obote noted that there are some Third World countries which did not experience the trauma Uganda went through and cannot feed themselves today.

The president was addressing a 3-day conference for brigade and battalion commanders of the Uganda National Liberation Army at the conference centre in Kampala today. It was also attended by the vice president and minister of defence, Mr Paulo Muwanga; the minister of state, office of the president, Mr Chris Rwakasisi; the commander of the army, Major General Tito Okello; and the COS, Brigadier Oyite Ojok.

Dr Obote told the officers that although life was still difficult in Uganda in certain respects, on the whole a marked improvement had been registered.

He asked them to resolve in 1983 to redouble their efforts and serve the people. The president informed the officers that some of them who had experienced difficulties in areas like Mpigi, Mubende, and Luwero had done so due to lack of political and civil leadership in those areas. The president called on the people of these areas to take up the example of the people of west Nile and mobilize the local leadership to combine with the military command to clean their areas.

Commenting on the difficulties the country is still experiencing, Dr Obote assured the officers that these difficulties can be overcome with our own efforts. He therefore charged the officers with the responsibility of going to explain to the people how best they can overcome the difficulties.

Dr Obote reiterated that while we welcome assistance from friends, such assistance should only supplement our own efforts.

Dr Obote noted that the biggest training, which has been carried out by the officers in their units, should continue. He urged them to look for the welfare of their soldiers and their families and to consult their seniors in case of difficulties in this endeavour.

Emphasizing their role, the president reminded the officers that Uganda has great potential which could be tapped to improve the standard of living of Ugandans so long as peace and stability prevailed in the country.

Earlier Vice President and Minister of Defense Mr Paulo Muwanga informed the president that the conference was one in a series where officers deliberate on matters affecting their work and social welfare.

Mr Muwanga reported to the president that the overall security situation in the country was good and that people were working in a peaceful atmosphere and heeding to government calls to increase production.

He praised the good relationship existing between soldiers and the population and attributed it to the realization by everybody that we are all citizens of this land and have to work together.

GABON

MITTERRAND GIVES PREDEPARTURE NEWS CONFERENCE

AB191149 Libreville Africa No 1 in French 0630 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Excerpts] At exactly 2230 yesterday, French President Francois Mitterrand left Franceville, a town in eastern Gabon, for Paris. During his trip to Gabon, Mr Mitterrand held several talks with his Gabonese counterpart, President Omar Bongo. In Franceville, Mr Mitterrand held a news conference. Listen to President Mitterrand as he presents a balance-sheet of his visit to Gabon:

[Begin recording] It was a very rich trip. It has been a long time since I last came to this country. I found a lot of changes. I received a warm and nice welcome. In Gabon, like elsewhere, no stone was left unturned to ensure that the president of the French Republic was received in the manner he deserves. As for our discussions, they were held in sections. We met four or five times. The schedule was very busy and we decided to hold our discussions in sections. They dealt with some aspects of general and foreign policy, bilateral policy, and some particular economic issues. Thus, we were able to go over all these issues in 2 days. They will later be thoroughly analyzed. This will be left to our governments and our aides who will do their work. I will only ensure that the issues are followed up. Therefore, I am leaving with a feeling of satisfaction. Of course, I also met with the people. [end recording]

Also during the Franceville news conference, the issue of Gabon's request for a nuclear power station was raised. This station will not be constructed for military purposes but for peaceful ones. President Omar Bongo wants the nuclear station to be of modest size and to contribute to preparing for the postpetroleum era. Mr Mitterrand stressed his country's stand on this issue:

[Begin recording] We see no obstacles at all to the principle of building a nuclear power station, within the framework of international controls and regulations, of course. We need to study the issue. President Bongo has made a proposal. It is in the interests of his country, he said. This is a sovereign country which has the right to conceive the idea. He then made the request to France, from the perspective of the postpetroleum era or at least in view of the progressive draining of petroleum resources, in order to begin energy production in this country. We understand each other very well. We are prepared to carry out this study and to send the necessary experts to Gabon to find out what type of station is needed and what the degree of need is in comparison with other energy sources -- for example, hydraulic resources, which are immense in a country like this. This study will be carried out by a common agreement. President Bongo is the leader of Gabon. Will the studies continue or not? No doubt, they will continue, because let us say, this is the decision made, depending on the scientific and technical data which will be collected, which neither of us knows at the moment. Last night, I noted an initial difficulty: We have not gotten to the point of starting the studies. Gabon wants a nuclear station of a certain size of production and for now, France does not build nuclear power stations that are above 400 megawatts. Technology is fast advancing and it is an unlimited field. When the studies are completed and we believe, with common agreement, that we should continue, Gabon can naturally approach anyone of its choice. Turning to France was already a friendly gesture, but we are not alone in having this technology. Then, at that time, we shall see if it is possible to build the station, if the principle is approved, and if it also corresponds to the need. [end recording]

It will be noted also that during this same news conference, the French president recalled the recent departure of Jean-Pierre Cot from the French Ministry of Cooperation and Development. Mr Cot, as you know, was replaced by Christian Nucci. President Mitterrand defines, in this regard, France's foreign policy:

[Begin recording] I determine France's foreign policy, whoever the minister may be. It has been so at the Ministry of Cooperation and Development since May 1981 and it will continue to be so in January 1983. The ministers are there to execute the country's policy. They, however, have the right to make their proposals and their advice is useful. Very often, the prime minister and I listen to them and support them. But a policy is determined with in a government; you know that the government meets in a Council of Ministers session, which I preside over. When an issue of foreign policy or defense comes up, I have certain obligations. The minister for external relations supervises foreign policy, including African policy of course, with the active assistance of the minister of cooperation and development. In this particular ministry it is inconceivable for a policy to be adopted without my approval or even without my direction. [end recording]

ZAIRE

MOBUTU SAYS ISRAEL TO REORGANIZE SHABA DIVISION

AB190914 Kinshasa Domestic Service in French 0600 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] Zaire would never dream of provoking other countries, least of all its neighbors, with whom it wants to live in perfect harmony. These words were spoken yesterday by the founding chairman of the MPR, who was replying to questions posed by the journalists accompanying Israeli Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon.

The founding chairman recalled that the Israeli defense minister's first visit took place 15 months ago and that it was devoted to laying the foundation for the resumption of normal diplomatic relations between Israel and Zaire. During this first visit, he said, we discussed the restructuring of the Zairian Armed Forces. This work has already begun with the special presidential brigade which has been effectively reorganized to the satisfaction of all.

Since the two parties -- Israel and Zaire -- want to deepen this experiment, work will continue within the framework of a 5-year plan to reorganize the Kamanyola Division, based in Shaba region and comprising 12,000 [as heard] men. [passage indistinct]

5-Year Military Agreement

AB191454 Paris AFP in English 1436 GMT 19 Jan 83

[By Jean-Eudes Barbier]

[Text] Kinshasa, Jan 19 (AFP) -- Israel and Zaire have agreed to a five-year military cooperation plan which will essentially involve the reorganisation of a division of the Zaire Army, President Mobutu Sese Seko announced here today. Field-Marshal Mobutu made the announcement after a working lunch with Israeli Defence Minister Ari'el Sharon, who is on a five-day official visit to Zaire.

The Zairian president said that the plan aimed to involve Israel in building a "real deterrent army." The Kamanyola Division of 5,000 [as received] men, based in the strategic south eastern Shaba Province, would be restructured under the plan. A reliable source said the plan will be signed in the next two days by Mr Sharon and Zaire Defence Minister Lomponda wa Botende.

The source said the plan provides for the 130-man artillery battalion of Kamanyola Division to be retrained. The battalion, which is equipped with Soviet material, is presently "in a very poor state," the source said.

Israel might also supervise reorganisation of a second Zaire artillery battalion in Mbanza-Ngungu, southwest of here, and become involved in the army's communications sector. But other sources said that officers making up the 90-man Israeli delegation accompanying Mr. Sharon would not necessarily stay behind to "start the work on the ground."

President Mobutu refused to admit a link between Zaire-Israeli cooperation and the Middle East conflict. "The friendship between Israel and Zaire is that between two sovereign countries," he said. "Zaire, which recognised the PLO in 1975 does not have to impose that recognition on Israel," he said, adding that "Israel's enemy is not necessarily the enemy of Zaire."

Zaire reopened diplomatic relations with Israel last May after a nine-year break following the Arab-Israeli conflict in 1973.

Field-Marshal Mobutu did not rule out a future visit to Israel, and said he had discussed the possibility with General Sharon.

The Israeli defence minister, who yesterday inspected the Israeli-trained Special Presidential Brigade (BSP) and attended a shooting exercise, is tomorrow expected to visit Shaba Province.

Procurement List Submitted

TA200542 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] Zaire wants Israel to be its main arms supplier. A list submitted by President Mobutu to Defense Minister Sharon includes sea vessels, helicopters, tanks, cannons, and radar systems. Our correspondent has also learned from Zairian Army sources that Mobutu has also requested security fences, assistance in control of the plains on the Angolan border, and Israeli-made miniature pilotless planes.

The Zairian president and the defense minister will hold another meeting today. Our correspondent reports that agreements will apparently be reached on various issues. On the arms issue, it is not yet clear how Zaire will finance all its purchases. Israel will insist on payment in cash for each and every item.

MOBUTU COMMENTS ON PLO RECOGNITION, ISRAEL

AB190830 Kinshasa Domestic Service in French 0600 GMT 18 Jan 83

[Text] The founding chairman of the MPR and president of the republic talked about the PLO in an interview with journalists accompanying Israeli Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon. Field Marshal Mobutu said that the friendship between Zaire and Israel is one between two sovereign and independent countries and that, therefore, Zaire's enemy is not necessarily Israel's enemy.

When we resumed normal diplomatic relations, he said, Israel was aware of Zaire's political, economic and diplomatic situation, just as Zaire was aware of Israel's. In this connection, Field Marshal Mobutu affirmed that Zaire -- which has recognized the PLO for almost 8 years now, that is since 1975, as the sole representative of the Palestinian people -- has no right to impose this recognition on Israel.

GHANA

ASAMOAH: REPATRIATION GOVERNMENT'S RESPONSIBILITY

AB191933 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] The government has expressed concern about the projected repatriation of Ghanaians from Nigeria and has taken the necessary steps to ensure that those affected by the exercise are not unduly harassed. This point was made clear by the secretary for foreign affairs, Dr Asamoah, during an interview in Accra today. Although the repatriation may mean extra expenditure, Dr Asamoah said it is the responsibility of the Ghana Government to see to the safe arrival by sea or by air of all those affected. The government also has plans to rehabilitate as many of the repatriated Ghanaians as possible. But, before that, the secretary said, they would [be] vetted in order to be absorbed into the economy in sectors where they are found suitable.

Dr Asamoah observed that the global economic situation is such that no country will allow large numbers of foreign nationals living illegally on its economy. He therefore advised prospective Ghanian travelers to have the required travel document before setting out on their journey. They should also make sure that they obtain work permits to avoid being trapped in such situations. An estimated number of 1 million Ghanaians are said to be residing in Nigeria.

Last Monday, Nigeria deported more than 50 Ghanaians who, the government said, had no valid papers; and, yesterday, the Nigerian Government gave a 2-week deadline to West African nationals living in the country illegally to leave. Reports reaching here from Lagos say, as a result of the deportation order, a number of affected Ghanaians have gathered at the Ghana High Commission there to receive further directives.

ARRANGEMENTS TO REPATRIATE NATIONALS BEGIN

AB192127 Accra Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] The government has charged the Ministry of Transport and Communications with the responsibiltiy of transporting all Ghanaians due for repatriation from Nigeria back home. An official statement from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs says the Ministry of Transport and Communications has detailed two ships to leave Ghana for Nigeria immediately for the evacuation exercise. The statement said other ships will be made available as and when the need arises. The statement said furher that the Provisional National Defense Council [PNDC] has charged the Ministries of Labor and Social Welfare, Interior, and Local Government with measures for the transit, accommodation, screening, and rehabilitation or deployment of all Ghanaians who will be returning home from Nigeria.

The inspector general of police, together with the police welfare officers, are already at work to set up the transit quarters. The statement assured all Ghanians of the government's preparedness and readiness to meet the challenge posed by the decision of the Nigeria Government.

Meanwhile, the PNDC advises the general public to be calm and not to resort to measures that may harm the cordial relations existing between Ghanaians and Nigerians and between the two nations. The official statement said since Nigeria gave an ultimatum to Ghanaians living illegally in Nigeria to quit, there have been series of meetings between representatives of the two countries to ensure that Ghanaians who may be affected are not exposed to undue hardship and suffering.

Accordingly, the PNDC secretary for foreign affairs, Dr Obed Asamoah, had a meeting with the Nigerian high commissioner in Ghana to outline the government's proposals with regard to the repatriation of Ghanaians with particular reference to their safety, the need for them to be allowed to bring along with them their belongings and the payment to them, where necessary, of their emoluments and entitlements at the date of their repatriation. To ensure the maximum welfare and comfort of the affected Ghanaians, the high commissioner in Nigeria has been instructed to consult the Nigerian authorities to establish suitable transit quarters for Ghanaians due for repatriation, to seek consular access to Ghanaians who may be detained by Nigerian authorities, and to provide facilities for those concerned. It is believed that there are more than 1 million Ghanaians in Nigeria, many of whom have no valid papers. It is also believed that many Ghanaians will be affected by the decision of the Nigerian Government that citizens from member countries of ECOWAS working illegally in Nigeria should leave the country within 15 days.

DAILY CRITICIZES NIGERIA ON IMMIGRANTS ISSUE

AB190953 Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Press Review]

[Text] The GHANAIAN TIMES comments on the Nigerian Government's ultimatum to illegal immigrants living in the country to leave within 2 weeks. It says the ultimatum significantly follows the repatriation of 53 Ghanaians who were held in jail for more than a year on alleged charges of violation of Nigeria's immigration laws. The paper quotes the 53 as having disclosed that they and other Ghanaians, who were arrested at their work places and bus stops, were rushed to prison without a chance to go home to produce their immigration papers. Even some of them, who happened to be carrying their papers, had them impounded and torn into pieces on the spot by the police before they were sent to jail. The 53 who were deported were not allowed to take their belongings with them. The TIMES therefore considers the repatriation ultimatum as having little or nothing to do with illegal presence of ECOWAS citizens in Nigeria. The ultimatum is pregnant with ulterior motives.

The paper notes that the reelection campaign of the ruling National Party of Nigeria [NPN] government in Nigeria is in serious disarray. The main reason for this is the remarkable lack of improvement on the economic achievement which the military handed over to the NPN administration. Another factor is the exposure of the fraudulent zoning policy of the NPN which the few Fulanis, who control the party, have mischievously implemented to deny the Hausas and Yorubas any real role in Nigerian politics. The TIMES makes it clear that the NPN regime can take whatever divisionist measures it wishes in a bid to save its waning image among Nigerians to get itself reelected this year, but it finds it unacceptable to use the presence of Ghanaians in Nigeria as one of the face-saving gimmicks.

Ghanaians entered Nigeria on the invitation of local companies and institutions, including the federal government itself, to help develop that country; and most of them have performed well. The TIMES points out that without the Ghanaians, no indigenous Nigerian company which supports the country's development program would have been able to participate competently in such fields as construction, education, and so on. The building of the new capital, Abuja, could not have been realized without Ghanaian labor. And it is pertinent to note that several years after Nigerian and Ghanaian officials had settled the question of Ghanaian residents in Nigeria, documenting them and ensuring that they are there with proper immigration papers, the Nigerian Government has suddenly turned around to declare that they are illegal immigrants.

No one can be deceived, says the TIMES, that the purpose of the move to send the Ghanaians home is to cause a mass hysteria situation by their repatriation in order to infiltrate among them mercenaries into Ghana to cause trouble. It believes that this is an alternative means of bringing the mercenaries into Ghana in view of the Togolese Government's persistent refusal to allow Togo to be used for invading Ghana.

The TIMES cautions the Provisional National Defense Council to handle the issue with utmost care. The paper recommends that if the repatriation is inevitable, the first step should be to accept back home women and children without any preconditions. Men possessing proper documents are also entitled to return home. But the onus of proving whether or not those who do not possess proper documents are Ghanaians must rest with the Nigerian authorities in accordance with international law and practice.

CORPORAL REITERATES KWEI INVOLVED IN MURDERS

AB182006 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 18 Jan 83

[Text] Lance Corporal Amedeka today repeated at the special investigations board that he acted on the orders of a former member of the Provisional National Defense Council [PNDC], Amartey Kwei. Lance Cpl Amedeka stated several times that as a soldier who followed orders from a superior, Amartey Kwei, he, Amedeka, could not be guilty of any offense and he is not a murderer. Lance Cpl Amedeka also denied, before the board, ever receiving a note from Captain Tsikata through Amartey Kwei. He said the first time he heard Capt Tsikata's name mentioned in connection with the abduction and murder was when the technical team of the board asked him about a note allegedly sent to him. He said, during the confrontation with Amartey Kwei before the investigation team, he was puzzled at the constant mention of Tsikata's name and the note.

When Lance Cpl Amedeka requested to cross-examine Captain Tsikata to establish whether he knew Captain Tsikata, the captain said he was seeing Amedeka for the first time. Tsikata pointed out that if he knew Amedeka there would be no reason why he should say he did not know him. At a point during proceedings, Lance Cpl Amedeka asked the board to allow him to send a message to the whole nation. When he was given the chance he started by saying that he wanted everyone to know that Ghana is in a crisis and that all who lost their lives did so in the name of the holy war. At this stage, the chairman of the board, Mr Aduka, ordered that he should be escorted out. He stated earlier that he did not just get up and massacre the four victims.

REGIONAL SECRETARY, POLICE DISCUSS CRIME WAVE

AB192134 Accra Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] The upper regional secretary, Mr Ndeburgre, has met representatives of the police, the armed forces, elders, and People's Defense Committees [PDC] at (Werugu) near Bolgatanga, to discuss how best to combat the incidence of stealing in the area. Mr Ndeburgre told the meeting that the only way to combat crime wave in the country is for the police to operate with civilians, especially PDC's. He said the attitude of the police towards complainants has given room for the public to suspect that they have aligned themselves with criminals.

The regional secretary appealed to the police to exercise restraint and caution in dealing with cases reported to them. He also appealed to the military and police to cooperate with the district secretary for the smooth administration of the district. Meanwhile, six persons believed to be among a gang of criminals operating in the area have been arrested and placed in police custody.

DAILY GRAPHIC ON PRICE CONTROL EXERCISE

AB182202 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 18 Jan 83

[Press Review]

[Excerpt] THE DAILY GRAPHIC writes on how to make the new price control exercise work. It notes that as the exercise began in the Accra-Tema metropolitan area yesterday, some recalcitrant traders went underground as they vacated the pavements and other selling points and some shops remained closed. The GRAPHIC notes that these tricks are not new because they characterize attempts by previous governments to control prices. They are obviously aimed at counteracting this price control exercise; but this should not deter the people and the law enforcing agencies from making it work. This is why the vigilance of the patriotic nationals is urgently needed. The GRAPHIC observes that greedy traders live with people who must know their misdeeds and they owe it as a national duty to inform the law enforcing agencies about these activities to make the price control exercise succeed. It would not [as heard] help if people remain adamant in this exercise and we all must get involved. The paper also stresses the importance of defense committees in the exercise. The paper calls on workers, policemen, soldiers, members of defense committees and all to intensify public education on the price control exercise.

IVORY COAST

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED ON STATE HOUSING ALLOWANCES

AB192159 Abidjan Domestic Television Service in French 2000 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Government communique issued in Abidjan on 19 January -- read by Information Minister Ahmadou Thiam -- live]

[Text] The world currently is going through a serious economic crisis, the end of which is still unforseeable and which has adverse effects on our country. The government therefore has embarked on a program of economic and financial reorganization along with a policy of rigor and austerity at all levels.

Within this framework, there is the imperative need to bring down to reasonable limits the state expenditures on housing for its agents and to bring sanity into the state's house leasing policy. In this connection, a decision has been made to reform and to simplify the policy for the accomodation of functionaries and state agents. The following are the decisions made by the Council of Ministers on 19 January 1983.

1. The rightful beneficiaries of state housing include military personnel -- the National Armed Forces of the Ivory Coast, the Gendarmes, the Presidential Guard, the militia and the navy -- the GATL, the civil service, the firemen, the police, customs personnel, and border guards in uniform, directors of jails, supervisors and wardens of jails, national security agents, subprefecture guardians, forest rangers, prefects and subprefects, private secretaries, and secretaries general of prefectures and public accountants. For all these people, the minister of housing and town planning has been directed to hold negotiations with landlords with the view to agreeing on new leasing rates.

2. Those who enjoy partial housing allowances are:

Group I: Lecturers, directors of research, junior lecturers, assistant directors of research, secondary school teachers holding an advanced degree, doctors, pharmacists, surgeons, dentists, veterinarians, and magistrates. They will receive a monthly housing allowance of 70,000 CFA francs.

Group II: Inspectors of youth and sports, primary school inspectors, advanced training school teachers, physical training teachers, senior secondary school teachers, junior research workers, technical school teachers, teachers with a Bachelor's Degree, technical workshop teachers, junior technical school teachers, and counselors in physical training and sports. They will receive a monthly housing allowance of 50,000 CFA francs.

Group III: Instructors of specialized training, counselors in education, teachers of primary schoolmasters' colleges, junior secondary school teachers, junior technical school teachers, technicians in research, educators, instructors of elementary education, arts teachers, junior physical training teachers, continued education teachers, supervisors, education counselors and social workers, junior counselors in physical training, and junior education masters and supervisors. They will receive a monthly housing allowance of 40,000 CFA francs.

It must, however, be pointed out that such allowances are only a privilege accorded them by the government and to which they are not automatically entitled. I mean those listed in Groups I, II, and III.

The beneficiaries of housing allowances who are now living in state-owned houses will pay a rent ranging between 20,000 to 50,000 CFA francs per month according to the location, standing, and condition of the houses.

In general, all those who wrongly acquired houses previously designed for low income citizens and who are now leasing them to the state or private individuals will be ordered to restore them immediately to the rightful beneficiaries.

Meanwhile, investigations are underway to discover all forms of malpractices with the view to prosecuting the guilty.

The government appeals to everyone in the entire country to understand and to accept these measures.

NIGER

NIGERIAN DECISION ON ILLEGAL ALIENS EXPLAINED

AB182229 Niamey Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 18 Jan 83

[Text] Dear listeners: You must have heard during our 1300 newscast about the decision made by Nigeria concerning aliens. We should perhaps explain that this decision of the Lagos authorities does not concern all aliens, but simply the illegal immigrants. As far as our countrymen are concerned, there is no need to be worried because Niger nationals who go to Nigeria or elsewhere have always respected the laws of the host country. As you know, President Kountche has always pointed out to our countrymen living abroad the absolute need for them to observe the laws of the country in which they carry out their activities.

If Nigeria has made the decision today to expel all illegal immigrants, it is because this country wants to improve its internal situation in order to better utilize its economy. Today nobody is unaware of the fact that all our countries are experiencing economic difficulties that have serious repercussions on the march toward the economic and social development of our countries. To cope with the economic crisis, countries all over the world have adopted measures that will enable them to put their houses in order.

In the ECOWAS member countries, despite economic difficulties, the right of free movement of persons and goods exists and remains. This means that cooperation between our countries is excellent. The ambassadors of the countries whose nationals are affected by these measures are aware of this decision and they will get in touch with the Nigerian Foreign Ministry to receive clarification and to find an adequate solution to this problem.

NIGERIA

MINISTER: EXPULSION NO VIOLATION OF ECOWAS TREATY

AB192137 Lagos Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] The Federal Government has said that the directive it gave to illegal aliens in the country to leave within 2 weeks was with a view to checking the increasing social problems. In an interview with a Rima radio staff reporter in Sokoto yesterday, the minister of internal affairs, Alhaji Ali Baba, observed that the number of such immigrants was too great, adding that it is one of the remote causes of the country's social problems. Alhaji Ali Baba noted that their continued stay would perpetuate the problems. He said those living legally would be registered in an exercise to commence throughout the country by the middle of next month. The minister however explained that the action would not be a contravention of the protocol signed by Nigeria on the ECOWAS since it was (?taken) in good faith.

Paper Applauds Decision

AB191157 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Press Review]

[Excerpt] Writing on the 14-day ultimatum to illegal aliens to leave the country by the Federal Government, the NIGERIAN TIDE concludes that Nigeria's traditional open-door policy has reduced the nation to a haven for aliens, mostly the undesirables. However, the paper commends the government for the positive steps taken to correct some of the anomalies and also calls on employers of labor in the country to cooperate with the government in assuring the success of the exercise.

Envoys Foresee Problems

AB191845 Paris AFP in English 1830 GMT 19 Jan 83

[By Francois-Xavier Harispe]

[Text] Lagos, Jan 19 (AFP) -- The Nigerian Government's decision to expel illegal immigrants in Nigeria has been taken seriously by all ambassadors accredited to Lagos.

Mr. S. Sarr, high commissioner of Gambia and the dean of the diplomatic corps in Nigeria, said today he had given instructions to all his colleagues who are members of ECOWAS to tell all their citizens in Nigeria that there was no alternative but to return to their country of origin.

The 16-member organization has been the most affected by the measure, which is estimated to affect up to two million illegal immigrants.

A meeting of ECOWAS ambassadors is scheduled for tomorrow at the Benin Embassy, Mr. Sarr said.

According to rumours circulating in the diplomatic corps here, the high commissioner of Ghana, Aaron Duah, has asked his authorities to provide a boat to repatriate Ghanaians unable to cross by land because of the closure of Ghana's land borders.

All ambassadors here agreed there would be enormous problems for the authorities in Benin and Togo caused by waves of Ghanaians crossing west from Nigeria and being unable to get into Ghana by land. The Ghanaian authorities have the reputation of firing on all those attempting to cross the border illegally. The Ghanian immigrant population in Nigeria is estimated at about one million.

Some incidents have already been reported in some districts here with foreigners being molested by Nigerians.

Several diplomats spoke of telephone calls from Nigerian and foreign employers, describing how upset they were at the measure which was announced on Monday by Internal Affairs Minister Ali Baba.

According to diplomatic sources, the non-Nigerians provided cheap labour accepting salaries 50 percent lower than the minimum official wage of 125 naira per month (about 180 U.S. dollars).

But the representatives of foreign governments were also concerned as to how their fellow-citizens would be able to return to their countries without any money. Many of them do not have enough to pay for transport to leave Nigeria.

There were reports here yesterday of a number of Beninois returning home.

SENEGAL

SAUDI KING FAUD EXPECTED TO VISIT 'SOON'

AB181642 Paris AFP in French 1230 GMT 18 Jan 83

[Text] Dakar, 18 Jan (AFP) -- King Fahd of Saudi Arabia will soon be making an African tour that might begin with Senegal, Saudi Information Minister Muhammad 'Abduh Yamani told the Dakar newspaper LE SOLEIL.

Mr Yamani who has just ended an official visit to Senegal, stressed the importance of King Fahd's forthcoming visit without, however, giving the date or the itinerary. He further recalled that King Faysal of Saudi Arabia had made a "historical tour" of Africa in the 1970's.

Commenting on the forthcoming visit of the Saudi monarch, Bara Diouf, director general of LE SOLEIL wrote that it constituties "a symbol of exemplary cooperation" and testifies to the sincerity of Saudi Arabia's commitment to stand by Senegal.

"It is a beautiful example of coexistence between the Arab world and the Black African world, which contrasts with the threats and invectives to which we have become accustomed from Colonel al-Qadhdhafi's Libya, adds the commentator.

Furthermore, Mr Yamani stressed the tolerance of Islam in particular towards Christianity. "Islam does not harbor any animosity against Christians. We have the same God and we believe in Jesus as a prophet," he said with regard to a dialogue between the two religions.

ANGOLA

ANGOP REPORTS 23 UNITA GUERRILLAS KILLED IN RAID

AB191651 Paris AFP in English 1645 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] Luanda Jan 19 (AFP) -- Twenty-three UNITA guerrillas were killed during a recent attack by the anti-government movement on the headquarters of a local militia in central Angola, the Angolan news agency ANGOP said today.

The agency said that the dead included a leader of the commando which attacked the building in Sakassumbi, about 20 kms (12 miles) east of Huambo. The agency said that three soldiers of the people's defence organization were killed in the attack and two others wounded.

The agency said that UNITA soldiers then pillaged Sakussumbi before they left the area.

LESOTHO

GOVERNMENT DENIES ANC DOCUMENTS SEIZED IN RAID

MB191729 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] A Lesotho Government spokesman today dismissed as persistent South African propaganda an allegation that the South African soldiers, who invaded Maseru late last year, captured ANC military documents. The spokesman was reacting to an article which appeared in the South African newspaper, THE STAR, of 17 January.

According to the article in THE STAR, an ANC report on South Africa's planned aerial defense system has recommended that sympathizers of the ANC should be encouraged to infiltrate South African Defense Force commando units. The article further claims that the soldiers discovered some documents captured during the raid from what it called ANC bases in Maseru. The source of the information, according THE STAR, is PARATUS, which is the official magazine of the South African Defense Force.

Rejecting the report as malicious propaganda by the South African Government, the spokesman said the persistent allegation by South Africa that there are ANC military bases in Lesotho is seen as nothing but a desperate move to justify that brutal invasion of Lesotho. The spokesman added that the Lesotho Government has emphatically and repeatedly denied that there are ANC military bases in Lesotho. He said the Lesotho Government has in the past invited the South African Government to come to pinpoint the alleged bases, but unfortunately South Africa had not responded to the invitation. Instead it had decided to invade Maseru to kill innocent people.

MOZAMBIQUE

SIX FOREIGNERS HELD ON SECURITY CHARGES

MB191200 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1100 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] Six people, one British citizen and five Portuguese, are being held by the Mozambican authorities on suspicion of involvement in activities against state security. The six, held residents of the city of Beira, worked at the offices of a foreign-owned shipping firm, Manica Freight Services.

The British citizen detained Dion Hamilton, is director of the company. One of the Portuguese, Bejamin Fox, is a section chief of the same firm. The other four, Joao Benedito Fernandes, Maria Odete Rodrigues, (Cipriano Exartocao Monteiro) and (Joaquim Martino da Silva) are clerical workers.

The daily newspaper, DIARIO DE MOZAMBIQUE, reports that suggested links between Mr (Hamilton) and acts of sabotage in Beira are being investigated. He was detained shortly after the fuel depot at Beira was sabotaged 6 weeks ago by a commando unit which came from South Africa. After the attack the authorities began investigating possible links between the attackers and residents in Beira. During the investigations, radio transmitters, pistols, rifles, boxes of ammunition, grenades, and military uniforms were found in two Beira houses.

The investigations into Mr Fox's activities concerned connections with the armed bandit groups which operate in Mozambique as an unofficial extension of the South African Armed Forces. The other four Portuguese citizens are being held on suspicion of direct complicity in these activities against Mozambique state security.

More on Detainees

AB200701 Paris AFP in English 0407 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] Maputo, Jan 19 (AFP) -- A Portuguese diplomat is about to leave Mozambique following security police investigations into sabotage actions in the port city of Beira, well-informed sources said here Wednesday. The sources said the Portuguese Embassy had negotiated with the authorities to end a 4-day siege in Beira of the consul's residence there by the police. The sources said "a diplomatic crisis" had arisen over the intentions of the Mozambicans to detain the unnamed consul in connection with security-related activities. But "intensive negotiations" were said to have resulted in the compromise that Portugal will immediately recall the diplomat.

The case is thought to be linked to that of six other foreigners detained in Beira shortly after the December 6 sabotage attack on a fuel depot. The tank farm supplied the oil pipeline to Zimbabwe. The sabotage has contributed to the serious fuel crisis which is now squeezing that landlocked country. The South African-backed Mozambique National Resistance movement (MNR) claimed responsibility for the sabotage, though Mozambique says it was carried out by a unit of South African commandos.

The DIARIO DE MOZAMBIQUE newspaper this week confirmed that British citizen Dion Hamilton and Portuguese citizens Benjamin Fox, Joao Benedito Fernandes, Maria Odete Rodrigues, Cipriano Exartocao Monteiro and Joaquim Martino da Silva were suspected of "involvement in activities against the security of the state." Mr Hamilton is the Beira manager of the Manica Freight Services company, and the other five are all employees in the same office. The newspaper report said radio transmitters, weapons, ammunition, and uniforms were found in the homes of two of those detained.

Meanwhile, the national radio announced last evening that another three MNR members had been executed in public, after having told a public meeting about their military activities. The executions took place Tuesday at the town of Magude, 150 kilometers north-west of here, in a district that has seen intense fighting between MNR rebels and government troops during the past two months. The radio report said the three had told the 2,000 people gathered there that they had taken part in "killing civilians, burning cars and cooperative shops and theft." An army firing squad carried out the sentence "at the demand of the population," the report said.

Last week, four MNR members were put to death in similar fashion in the nearby town of Macia, and there have been indications of other public trials and executions of captured rebels in Inhambane Province.

VOFA ON MACHEL'S REFUSAL TO TALK TO RNM

MB191459 (Clandestine) Voice of Free Africa in Portuguese to Mozambique 1700 GMT 18 Jan 83

[Station commentary]

[Excerpt] As the Portuguese colonialists who in the past refused to negotiate with the so-called terrorists, now Machel refuses to sit at the table with the so-called armed bandits. Instead of peace and accord, Samora Machel talks about devouring the armed bandits, which are more empty words to add to the promises of liquidating and annihilating the Mozambique National Resistance [RNM] in a matter of months. This attitude is not shared by the officers of the Popular Forces for the Liberation of Mozambique [FPLM], who see their comrades falling every day on the combat front, either multilated by a burst of machinegun fire from a weapon held by a concealed guerrilla, or maimed in the explosion of a landmine hidden on the trail. For the FPLM officials, Samora Machel has become the marshal who has lost contact with the realities of a war that is taking place in his own country. He is forever dreaming about the defeat of a people who are determined to fight to the end to gain the freedom that is denied them.

Instead of negotiating with the Mozambican people, Samora Machel occupies himself with talking with representatives of American imperialism because the mentality of the bigoted marshal tells him that the struggle the peoples wage against communism must pass through Washington. At least this is what one understands from what the Maputo media vomits daily in presenting our struggle as a mere destabilizing maneuver which is in the framework of imperialism's global plans.

During the recent visit that the Reagan boys made to Mozambique, Samora Machel called for U.S. intervention in the struggle being waged by the RNM. Machel told them that new perspectives for what he described as mutually advantageous relations could be reached once the war was ended. Machel repeats the same mistake which is common to totalitarian leaders who insist on establishing a link between the just aspirations of the oppressed peoples and the designs of imperialist powers and their regional lackeys. The struggle being waged by the Mozambican people depends neither on the will of any imperialist power, nor do the Mozambican people need to ask permission from abroad to gain the freedom that they long for. Furthermore, we are not prepared to sacrifice our freedom on the altars of the multinational corporations. We know that our freedom has a price and that it will not be paid in dollars, but instead in the blood of the Mozambican people, which will continue to spill until a democratic government is put into power. As a matter of fact, Washington is not interested in our people's freedom. Its ambassador in Maputo has advised Reagan not to bet on the RNM because a deal with Samora Machel was likely to be more profitable. Maybe, in Ethiopia and in Iran the deals seemed to be more profitable too.

MACHEL CALLS ON NATION TO LIQUIDATE REBELS

MB191315 Maputo English to Southern Africa 1800 GMT 18 Jan 83

[Text] President Samora Machel has told political and military leaders from all of Mozambique's provinces that the military liquidation of the Pretoria-sponsored Kizumba bandits is now a principal task for the entire population, along with efforts to strengthen the economy.

President Samora was speaking during a meeting in Nampula at the weekend when he discussed the political and military situation with members of the Frelimo party Political Bureau, the cabinet and provincial party and military leaders.

The newspaper NOTICIAS said this morning that the meeting analyzed the situation in each province and decided on measures to step up military, economic, and political and social efforts. Also during the meeting provincial party secretaries and military commanders read out a message to express the full support of the people in the provinces for the fight against armed as well as unarmed bandits who sabotaged the country's economy. The message also praised recent diplomatic initiatives led by President Samora, saying these would isolate the enemy and enable Mozambique to neutralize them.

CHISSANO MEETS SOVIET DEPUTY TRADE MINISTER

MB191237 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] Joaquim Chissano, the Mozambican minister of foreign affairs, received the Soviet first deputy minister of foreign trade, (Zurav Liov) during a visit he made to Gaza Province from 15 to 17 January. Minister Chissano received the Soviet official in his capacity as the stand-in for the commissioner of the Gaza Provincial Government. The Soviet first deputy minister of foreign trade had the opportunity to visit the lower Limpopo production unit, where Mozambican officials and Soviet experts working there informed him about the scheme's progress in production development.

(Zurav Liov), who is back in Maputo, visited Cifel Company and the capital's harbor yesterday. Meanwhile, the talks which had begun a few days ago are continuing with the aim of increasing trade between our country and the Soviet Union.

NAMIBIA

HOUGH GIVES ASSURANCES ON NEW ADMINISTRATION

MB191455 Johannesburg Domestic Service in Afrikaans 1400 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] Mr Danie Hough, the administrator-general of South-West Africa, says the administrator-general's assumption of the functions of the central government should not be interpreted as the territory now having a one-man government. Mr Hough emphasized in Windhoek that in the execution of his duties the administrator-general would be assisted by a chief executive officer, as well as by the various departments of the central government of South-West Africa and the various committees he would appoint with functions delegated to them.

Mr Hough said that the South African Government would continue to hold consultations with the residents of the territory. Regarding statutes approved by the National Assembly, Mr Hough said that the administrator-general would be governed under existing legislation, just as had been the case with the National Assembly. He explained that there would be no change in the relationship between second-tier authorities and the central government, which had been taken over by the administrator-general.

POLL SHOWS NAMIBIANS AGAINST RSA 'TAKEOVER'

MB191600 Windhoek THE WINDHOEK ADVERTISER in English 14 Jan 83 p 4

[Excerpt] Feeling is strong amongst Windhoek's public against any takeover of Namibia's central interim government in the coming weeks, when all powers might resort to the administrator-general's office.

Such a take-over is in the cards if Mr Dirk Mudge resigns as chairman of the Ministers' Council and the council automatically dissolves, or if the National Assembly is allowed to dissolve at the end of February as announced by the SA prime minister in Windhoek in December.

All 26 people confronted in Kaiser Street by THE ADVERTISER in a mini survey this week indicated that a South African take-over would be a step backwards and would not be in the best interests of the country and its people. These people represent a cross-section of Windhoek's white, black and brown inhabitants.

All respondents except one said they regretted Mr Mudge's resignation under the circumstances, but they also felt it was a positive step because Namibia's development towards independence has been placed on a new road as a result.

Sixteen said a UN elections should be held immediately, four said the people of Namibia should be allowed to determine their own future and the rest felt politics in the country were too confused at present for such an election.

All except one rejected ethnic elections. Reasons given were mainly that the country could not afford it, and that apartheid would be further entrenched as a result.

DTA VICE PRESIDENT BLAMES SOUTH AFRICA

MB200849 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] The vice president of the Democratic Turnhalle Alliance in South-West Africa, Dr Ben Africa, has blamed both South Africa and the international community for the failure of an internal settlement in South-West Africa. Speaking at the summer school of the University of Cape Town, he accused South Africa of having introduced apartheid into South-West Africa. He said that credibility of South Africa had been seriously dented in the past 10 years, and majority of South-West Africans had lost trust in South Africa.

SOUTH AFRICA

JOHANNESBURG ON NEW NAMIBIAN ADMINISTRATION

MB191628 Johannesburg International Service in English 1500 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] The most important fact to note as South Africa takes over rule in South-West Africa again is that this move in no way influences the drive by the Western powers to bring an internationally acceptable settlement for the territory. This was also emphasized by the administrator-general of South-West Africa, Mr Danie Hough, who said that the arrangement was merely an interim one because the South African Government believed that the people of the territory should decide on their future.

In fact what is to happen now is that all aspects of rule in South-West Africa/Namibia will be under the direct control of the administrator-general, although he will consult with all political parties and interest groups in the process of decision making. Special committees are to be formed to advise him so that he is kept informed on the full spectrum of activities in the territory.

Insofar as the settlement drive itself is concerned, South Africa is still awaiting the result of negotiations between the United States and Angola on the withdrawal of the Cubans from that country. This has become the single greatest obstacle to a settlement in Namibia.

South Africa has indicated that it will give the green light for a go-ahead in the settlement drive once it has received firm assurance from the United States that the Cubans will be withdrawn prior to the implementation of United Nations Settlement Resolution 435. So far such assurances have not been forthcoming mainly, it appears, because no settlement has been achieved in Angola between the ruling MPLA Government and UNITA. The Cubans are keeping the MPLA in power and UNITA out of Luanda so unless there is a settlement between UNITA and the MPLA the chances of the Cubans leaving are slim.

Another important factor here is the attitude of the Soviet Union. The more than 20,000 Cubans in Angola have given the Soviets a firm foothold in the southern African subcontinent. Many observers believe this is an advantage which the Soviets would be most reluctant to sacrifice, particularly because of their interest in southern Africa and the opportunities this affords them to destabilize the region.

On the other hand purges and other signs within the MPLA Government indicate that there is growing disenchantment with the Soviets. This could result in a settlement between UNITA and the MPLA, the Cubans being kicked out, and an internationally acceptable independence for South-West Africa. That would be the best possible scenario for southern Africa. It remains to be seen whether it can be achieved.

HENDRICKSE DENIES PRESSURE IN LABOR'S CHOICE

MB200823 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] The leader of the Labor Party, Reverend Alan Handrickse, says the government exerted no pressure whatsoever on his party to participate in the new constitutional setup. He said the only pressure that there was came from those opposed to the party's participation.

Speaking on television, the Reverend Mr Hendrickse said that the decision has been greeted in certain circles with unrealistic emotionalism, which will soon disappear once they realized that the Labor Party had taken the right step. He denied that there was any truth in allegations that the Labor Party's decision was an attempt to wreck the new constitutional dispensation. The party had indicated that it did not regard the government's present proposals as the final answer to South African politics. Mr Hendrickse said he believed coloreds could play a unique role as arbitors and catalysts in South African politics.

HOMELAND LEADERS PLEDGE TO PROMOTE BLACK UNITY

MB200800 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0600 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] KwaZulu and Tranksei have pledged to embark on a joint search to promote Black unity as a strategy for liberating all the peoples of South Africa. The pledge was made in a joint statement released by KwaZulu's chief minister, Gatsha Buthelezi and the president of Ciskei, Kaizer Matanzima.

The two leaders met in northern Natal yesterday for the first time since 1975. They said they have met because leaders realized that Blacks in South Africa have been excluded from the decisionmaking process for generations. They said there is the need to create a united front against political discrimination and that white domination and privilege thrived on Black disunity. Buthelezi said a united demand for a racial solution in South Africa could lead to practical reality. He said the government's proposed constitutional reforms were aimed at building what he called colored and Indian laager around the whites. He said the plan had no regard for the political future of Blacks.

SWAZILAND

ANC REFUGEES STILL MISSING FROM CAMP 19 JAN

MB191215 Mbabane THE TIMES OF SWAZILAND in English 19 Jan 83 p 1

[By James Dlamini]

[Excerpt] The 17 ANC refugees who fled from Mawelawela Camp in fear of a suspected South African raid had still not returned to the camp yesterday.

The resident representative of the United Nations high commissioner for refugees, Mr Emmanuel Owusu, said yesterday that the government had not yet informed him whether or not the refugees would be rounded up again and returned to the camp.

GOVERNMENT DEMANDS APOLOGY FROM S. AFRICAN PAPER

MB191210 Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 19 Jan 83 p 3

[Excerpts] Mbabane -- The Swaziland Government has demanded an apology from the Afrikaans Sunday newspaper, RAPPORT, because two of its journalists allgedly took photographs of a refugee camp without permission and sparked a walkout by African National Congress exiles who were detained there.

RAPPORT executives could not be contacted for comment last night.

MORE SWAZI EMIGRANTS TO SOUTH AFRICA EXPECTED

MB191400 Mbabane THE TIMES OF SWAZILAND in English 19 Jan 83 pp 1, 16

[By James Dlamini]

[Excerpt] The number of Swazis migrating to South Africa to seek jobs is expected to soar dramatically this year.

The chief statistician in the Central Statistical Office, Mr David Lukhele, said yesterday that the migration to South Africa has been rising rapidly since 1981 and is getting worse as more jobs are lost in the local market.

"And I fear that South Africa may send large numbers back as the situation deteriorates even in that country," Mr Lukhele said.

In his latest official report, Mr Lukhele states that the number of Swazis recruited to the mines rose from 10,870 in 1980 to 11,048 in 1981.

"And I expect this upward trend to have doubled during the 1982-83 period and to get even worse during the subsequent period. We are still working on those figures," he said.

The majority are absorbed in the gold mines and the rest are employed in smaller mining concerns, according to figures in the report.

These figures do not include migrants to South Africa to seek jobs on their own without registering under the mine labour organisation."

Before the current recession the number of Swazis migrating to South Africa was declining steadily. The figure went tumbling down from 15,491 in 1977 to 10,870 in 1980, but it took a sudden upswing in 1981 again.

ZIMBABWE

5,000 TROOPS REPORTEDLY BEING SENT TO MOZAMBIQUE

LD192152 Lisbon Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] According to NOTICIAS DE PORTUGAL quoting a diplomatic source, Zimbabwe will be spending 5,000 soldiers and officers to Mozambique. The same source added that the Zimbabwean military will be joining Mozambican forces in combat against the opponents of the Frelimo Government.

The diplomatic source quoted by NOTICIAS DE PORTUGAL said that sending Zimbabwean troops to Mozambique had been under study for a long time, but that the decision had only been definitively made at a recent meeting in Beira between the chiefs of general staff of the two countries.

Should this information be confirmed, it will be the first time that foreign forces will join Mozambican troops since the country's independence.